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Lebanon's plight regrettable; GCC won't split: Hamad

By Ahmed Jarallah Editor-in-Chief

THE present course of events in Lebanon is very regrettable, the Crown Prince of Bahrain, Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa said in an interview with the Arab Times.

He added: "Lebanon is truly a horrifying sight because it depicts vividly the catastrophes of a full-fledged inter-Arab war with the use of modern destructive armaments with no holds barred."

He voiced his concern that more parties could get embroiled in the on-going conflict.

"This fear stems from the real possibility that any one of the present sides could seek assistance from other Arab forces. Arabs could find themselves in a relocated Iraq-Iran war," Sheikh Hamad said.

"We urgently desire that the three-man Arab committee resume its efforts as the present situation in Lebanon is not pleasing to anyone," he added.

Closer to home, Sheikh Hamad said that the stability and unity that the GCC enjoys is not pleasing to many forces "but a division will not occur simply because GCC links are harmonious."

"It is our belief that issues in the region must be met with a unified Gulf stand," he added. "This linking alone will lead to prosperity and strengthen the conditions for peace and stability."

On the financial scene Hamad said that Bahrain's gross national product this year is higher as compared to last year and a number of private sector entrepreneurs have demanded simplification of measures and procedures and "the government is planning to do just that."

(See full text Page 9)

Axis sealed to oust Aoun

Perez calls Council; fighting spreads

BEIRUT, Aug. 15, (Agencies): Syria massed more troops on a new warfront in northern Lebanon where 15 of its soldiers were killed or wounded today in tank battles with Christian-led forces, security sources said.

In Beirut, Syrian gunners and the troops of Christian Army commander Major-General Michel Aoun pounded each other's residential areas with large-calibre shells, killing at least six people and wounding more than 16.

On the diplomatic front, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar invoked seldom-used powers to call for an urgent meeting of the Security Council to try to end the fighting.

France, while mounting an international drive to halt the battles, sent a frigate to the area. French diplomat Jacques Andreani will try to hold talks with a top-level Soviet audience. France believes the Soviet Union, Syria's traditional ally, can play a crucial role in bringing an end to the shelling.

A French envoy delivered a message to President Hosni Mubarak today on France's international initiative to try to end the fighting in Lebanon, Foreign Ministry sources said in Cairo.

Syrian forces, probing the defences of Aoun's besieged Christian enclave, sent more troops and tanks to the frontline at the Madoun river, 40 km (25 miles) north of Beirut.

They also brought up two Soviet-made 240 mm mortars, used with devastating effect in the battle for Beirut, the security sources said.

On the southeastern gateway to the Christian enclave, Aoun's troops and Druze Muslim gunners traded artillery fire across the mountain ridge of Souk Al Gharb, where the Christian-led forces fought off a rare ground offensive on Sunday.

Military sources believe Syrian troops are testing Aoun's strength around the limits of the enclave, adding the threat of direct assault to the thunder of artillery battles.

Syrian troops and their allies have also been seen massing in hills east of Beirut.

More than 140 people have been killed and 525 wounded since rival artillery bombardments across Beirut's Christian-Muslim divide intensified last Thursday.

The conflict erupted in mid-March when Aoun, heading an interim government vying for power with a Syrian-backed Muslim-led administration, launched a "war of liberation" to expel Syria's 33,000 troops from Lebanon. At least 740 people have since been killed and more than 3,000 wounded.

As shelling raged on unabated

(Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)

MASSACRE IN DAVAO



An Australian woman missionary lies dead on the ground at the gate of the detention centre in Davao. (Reuter wirephoto)



Hostages raise their arms, including Hamill with a knife pointed at her chest. (Reuter wirephoto)



Jackie Hamill

Missionary raped, killed

DAVAO, Philippines, Aug. 15, (Agencies): Philippine troops stormed an Army jail and killed 16 prisoners today after the inmates raped and killed an Australian woman missionary and took the lives of four other hostages.

The driver, a 43-year-old Laotian called Nang Tiane, chased them and rammed her BMW into the scooter, squashing it into a heap of tangled metal, according to witnesses.

Dominique Metrol was killed on the spot. Pierre Mendy was rushed to hospital in a critical condition. Police said they had arrested Tiane. (Reuter)

Davao city, 1,000 kms (600 miles) southeast of Manila, a military spokesman said.

"Yes, she's dead. Her throat had been sliced and she had been shot through the neck," said a soldier who retrieved the body of Sydney missionary Jacqueline Hamill, 36.

Filipino Protestant pastor Fred Castillo, a hostage who escaped from the jail before the military attack, said some women, including Hamill, were raped by the prisoners last night.

"They were crying while it was happening. We could hear their screams," Castillo told reporters.

"She (Hamill) confessed to me afterwards," Castillo said. He said Hamill told her the prisoners pointed a knife at her before she was raped.

(Continued on Page 2)

Gandhi tough; 50 hurt in riots

NEW DELHI, Aug. 15, (Agencies): At least 50 people were injured in rioting and disturbances on India's 42nd anniversary of its independence today and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi warned that divisive forces were rising in the country.

Bomb blasts and rioting in the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir injured at least 50 people, while police opened fire and lobbed tear gas shells to quell riots in Calcutta, Indian news agencies reported.

Rajiv made a tough speech from the ramparts of New Delhi's Red Fort, savaging the opposition and evoking memories of his mother Indira Gandhi, who was killed by Sikh assassins.

The prime minister, who faces a national parliamentary election before the end of the year, said his mother sacrificed her life to forces that wanted to divide the Indian nation.

"Divisive forces are rising in the country. Dogmatism is still alive."

"Certain people have come into politics who are prepared to sacrifice their principles for the sake of an opportunistic"

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 4)

In the name of God Pope shaken

CASTELGANDOLFO, Italy, Aug. 15, (AP): Pope John Paul II, his voice cracking with emotion, pleaded today for a ceasefire in Lebanon.

"In the name of God, in the name of God, I ask them to stop the bombardment that aims to destroy the capital of Lebanon and the entire country," the Pope pleaded in his 10th appeal for peace in Lebanon since April.

He said countries that can intervene to stop the fighting must intervene or share the "grave guilt" for continued bloodshed.

John Paul also said he would like to make pilgrimage to Lebanon to pray for peace but that he has been advised not to go because of the fighting.

"I have been advised to hold off for the moment because of the situation. In these days it has gotten progressively worse. However, right now inside I feel even more of an imperative to go to Lebanon."

The pontiff was speaking to the faithful at his summer residence in the Alban hills just south of Rome.

"In front of the whole world it (Lebanon) is going through a trial, a trial for which the entire international community is responsible. It is a trial that is bringing the destruction of Lebanon," said John Paul.

"In reality, we find ourselves confronted with a threat to the entire order of international life. It is a threat of a moral nature."

John Paul met yesterday with Alain Decaux, an envoy from French President Francois Mitterrand. The Vatican did not release any details of the meeting.

However, Decaux told the newspaper Le Figaro that he delivered a letter to the Pope from Mitterrand that "explored with him the possibility of a common action on behalf of Lebanon."

He said France and the Vatican support the efforts of the Arab League to bring peace to Lebanon and share similar views on other aspects of the Lebanese crisis.



Pope appeals for peace in Lebanon. (Reuter wirephoto)

McDonnell Douglas wins \$489m deal Kuwait buys jet fighters

By Jadranka Porter Arab Times staff

MCDONNELL Douglas Corporation is being awarded a contract to build 32 F/A-18C and eight F/A-18D jet fighters for the government of Kuwait, according to the US Defence Department and the aircraft manufacturer.

The total value of the contract, expected to be signed by today, was not announced but a spokesman for the aircraft manufacturer put the value of the first instalment at \$489 million.

Tom Dawney, head of the McDonnell Douglas media relations for F18 programmes said the work is to be completed in St. Louis in September 1993 but the delivery will take place in 1994.

The contract, part of a \$1.9 billion US-Kuwaiti arms deal signed in August last year, is to be awarded by the naval air systems command for a foreign military sale to Kuwait.

Earlier estimates put the value of 40 F18s, excluding the cost of training programmes, maintenance and accompanying weapons, at \$680 million and the cost per aircraft was quoted at \$17 million.

"Contracts are usually released in various increments as"

(Continued on Page 9)

Amir plan given nod

DOHA, Aug. 15, (KUNA): The Turkish and Bulgarian presidents agreed in principle on a proposal by HH the Amir of Kuwait over settlement of the problem of ethnic Turks in Bulgaria.

The secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Hamed Al Ghalid, said that a number of OIC foreign ministers are currently in Turkey on a fact-finding mission pertaining to the Bulgarian-Turkish problem.

Bush would strike, but offers Iran conciliation

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15, (Reuters): President George Bush said today he would use military force "in an instant" if he thought it would free US hostages, but he appeared to rule out a rescue mission at the time.

"If I could find a way to take those hostages, get them and bring them out, and that required using the military force of the United States, make no mistake about it — I would do it in an instant," Bush told a news conference.

"At some point we have to stand up for our interests even if it means military," he added.

But he said he was not threatening military action, in part because he did not want to kill innocent people.

"I don't want to be responsible for the loss of innocent life. I also would have to weigh, if we considered military action, the lives of the Americans that were being asked to carry out that action. So it's just not clear yet," he said during a 30-minute question-and-answer session in the White House press briefing room.

Bush also adopted a conciliatory tone toward Iran, saying the Iranians have it in their power to free US hostages and rejoin the "family of law-abiding" nations.

In another apparent sign to Tehran, the US told the World Court it would be willing to take part in a suit brought by Iran after the US shooting down of an Iranian passenger plane in July 1988.

Hasina hopeful

By Ghazala Akbar

IN the dynastic politics of the Asian sub-continent, dominated — as one analyst bluntly puts it — "by widows and orphans" Sheikh Hasina, 42, daughter of Bangladesh founding father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman waits her turn for the prize that many Bangladeshis believe is inevitably hers by right — the premiership of Bangladesh.

It has been a long and arduous wait for Hasina who has been in the business longer than her counterparts — Rajiv Gandhi in India and Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan, the political heirs of her father's contemporaries Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. All three had violent deaths.

In the early 70's this triumvirate ruled the Asian sub-continent. Now their children dominate. Only Hasina remains to complete the cycle.

Hasina's father Sheikh Mujib, the prime architect of Bangladesh's independence movement from Pakistan was brutally slain along with his wife, three sons, daughters-in-law and other members of his household by a group of disgruntled army officers setting a personal score on Aug 15, 1975.

His killers are still free in Bangladesh and have been given immunity from prosecution. Hasina and another sister Rehana were abroad at the time and therefore escaped the carnage.

(Continued on Page 5 Col 1)

NEWSWATCH

Woman mows down youths: A woman driver chased two youths who snatched her handbag in Paris and mowed them down with her BMW car, killing one and seriously wounding the other, police said on Tuesday.

The two 19-year-olds, riding a scooter, pulled up alongside the car at traffic lights on Monday and grabbed the bag containing \$8,000 francs (\$12,000) from the passenger seat.

The driver, a 43-year-old Laotian called Nang Tiane, chased them and rammed her BMW into the scooter, squashing it into a heap of tangled metal, according to witnesses.

Dominique Metrol was killed on the spot. Pierre Mendy was rushed to hospital in a critical condition. Police said they had arrested Tiane. (Reuter)

ACC strategy session: Ministers of religious affairs from the four-nation Arab Co-operation Council met in Baghdad Tuesday to discuss co-operation on religious affairs and co-ordinate strategy against Islamic fundamentalism.

In his opening address, Iraq's Minister of Awqaf (religious endowment) and Islamic affairs, Abdullah Fadil, called on his counterparts from Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen to draw up a joint strategy to counter Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalist movements. (AP)

Jordan election on Nov 8: Jordan has set November 8 as the date for its first parliamentary elections in 22 years, an official said. (Reuter)

Charged with cruelty: A homeless man who impaled the body of a duck on the White House fence is charged with cruelty to animals and will be arraigned on the charges on Tuesday, secret service spokeswoman said.

A spokesman said Christopher E. Jackson, 33, may be considered for psychiatric evaluation.

Plane crash: A Chinese passenger plane believed to be carrying 40 people crashed, the official Xinhua news agency said.

An earlier Xinhua report and the national televised nightly news said 33 people had died. The later Xinhua report did not explain the discrepancy in figures. It said rescue efforts were continuing for people still trapped in the wreckage. (AP)

Find a rational solution: Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said on Tuesday he would be willing to serve as Poland's new prime minister "if society wants it."

President Wojciech Jaruzelski also Tuesday called on the country's major political leaders to meet together as soon as possible to find a "rational solution" to the deepening governmental crisis.

Walesa softened his previous terms for entering a coalition government by saying the opposition would accept a deal that allowed the Communist party to keep the defence and interior ministries. (Agencies)

Earlier report — Page 6

Statue erected: President Saddam Hussein on Tuesday ordered the erection of a life-size statue of the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser in a downtown Baghdad Square, state-run Baghdad Radio reported.

It did not say what the statue will be made of. It said the Iraqi President also decreed that a main avenue leading to the square be named after Nasser. (AP)

Wife missing: Police were called out by an English husband anxious about his wife apparently missing from home, only to learn she was sleeping under the bed.

He had returned to their home in Taunton, Somerset, south West England, early in the morning yesterday, but there was no sign of his wife.

She explained she was sitting beside the bed after a long telephone conversation with a friend, had fallen asleep and rolled under the bed. (KUNA)

Ivana my name: Trump: "Ivana" has Ivana Trump seeing red, with the wife of Donald Trump claiming that the lipstick is trading on her name.

Mrs. Trump, who runs the Plaza Hotel for her husband, has a name that has "become synonymous with the very best, regardless of the project or activity," according to a \$10 million lawsuit filed Monday in US court. (AP)

Zia's son alleges US coverup in plane crash probe — Page 5

Pakistan orders curfew after five killed in Karachi riots — Page 5

INTERNATIONAL

Man confesses to 3 killings

Japanese fascinated with horror video movies

TOKYO, Aug 15, (AP) — A man arrested for kidnapping and killing a five-year-old girl confessed he killed two other girls in a series of murders that have shocked Japan, police said today.

Tsutomu Miyazaki, who was arrested Friday for kidnapping and killing Ayako Nomoto two months ago, confessed to police that he also killed two four-year-old girls, Mari Konno and Erika Namba, police said.

Police also were questioning the 26-year-old Tokyo print shop worker regarding his possible involvement in the disappearance of a fourth girl, seven-year-old Masami Yoshizawa of Saitama state. She vanished last October.

Miyazaki was in custody after being arrested July 23 for allegedly taking photographs of a nude six-year-old girl. He was charged with indecent assault in the case.

Miyazaki was rearrested Friday on charges of kidnapping and killing Nomoto.

Her torso was found near a public restroom in a cemetery northwest of Tokyo on June 11. Police discovered the girl's skull Thursday at a location Miyazaki led them to.

Under Japanese law, prosecutors have a maximum of 20 days to collect evidence against him before releasing him or bringing charges.

"In the most brutal murder case in postwar crime history, Miyazaki finally confessed he killed the other two," the Japan Broadcasting Corp. reported.

The new development appeared on the front pages of all the major Japanese newspapers.

According to police, Miyazaki said in his confession: "On Aug. 22, I picked up Mari, drove her to a mountain, where I strangled her

to death. I took two pictures of her in the car. I burned her with other things in the front yard at my house. I put her bones and ashes in a box and put it at the front door of Mari's home."

In February, after the box was found, letters were sent to Konno's home and the national newspaper Asahi Shimbun by a writer named "Yuko Imada," claiming responsibility for her abduction and murder. Investigators later found that "Yuko Imada" was the name of a female detective in a comic book.

Miyazaki told police he also kidnapped Namba, strangling her in his car, stripping her clothes off and throwing her in the woods.

Mitsuyoshi Maniwa, a psychology professor at Shizuoka University, said Miyazaki could not distinguish between reality and the fictional world largely due to his fascination with horror and animation videos.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Swimming escape

BERLIN, Aug 15, (AP) — British authorities have installed five ladders along a Berlin river bank that has been the site of escape attempts by East Germans trying to swim to freedom in the West, a spokeswoman said today.

The ladders are like those used in swimming pools and extend into the waters of the Spree river separating communist East Berlin from West Berlin.

"We've installed the ladders for humanitarian reasons," British diplomatic spokeswoman Biddy Brett Rooks told the Associated Press in a telephone interview. They were installed in the British sector of the city.

However, she declined to say the ladders and a long stretch of rope also fastened along the Spree's western bank were designed specifically to aid escape attempts.

"Our purpose is to help anyone in the water, however they got there," she said.

Acid rain

TOKYO, Aug 15, (AP) — Acid rain, a harmful rain produced by sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants from factories and electric power plants, has been falling over Japan, the government said today.

According to an environmental agency survey conducted since 1983, more than 30 lakes and marshes across the country have been hit by rain so acidic, it could in the future damage forests and kill fish.

In the survey taken at 29 locations from 14 prefectures including the northern island of Hokkaido, Tokyo, and the western city of Hiroshima, the amount of potential hydrogen (PH) in the rain ranged from 4.4 to 5.5.

19 killed

BEIJING, Aug 15, (AP) — Nineteen people died and 74 were injured in a fire that began on Saturday and was still smoldering today at an oil depot near the coastal city of Qingdao, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

The fire, ignited by lightning that struck one tank, caused five oil tanks at the Huangdao oil depot near Qingdao to explode and resulted in the loss of more than 280,000 barrels of crude oil, Xinhua added.

Missile tests

WASHINGTON, Aug 15, (AP) — Despite two high-level US appeals, the Soviet Union last week conducted an unarmed missile test near the Hawaiian Islands that the US State Department had privately urged Moscow to reconsider on both political and safety grounds, US officials said yesterday.

The missile flew through the air between the two tiny islands, Nekter and Nihoa, before splashing down on Friday in an open area of the Pacific Ocean.

While the Soviets had announced on Aug 7 their intention to conduct a test sometime between Aug 11 and Aug 21, neither the two private US appeals to deputy ambassador Sergei Chetverikov nor the test itself were made public.

Satellite destroyed
WASHINGTON, Aug 15, (Reuters) — The Soviet Union destroyed a military reconnaissance satellite last month to keep it from possibly falling in a populated area or into the hands of US intelligence, an authoritative trade journal reported.

Aviation Week and Space Technology, in its current issue, said US intelligence officials believed Soviet military controllers deliberately exploded the out-of-control Cosmos 2030 satellite on July 28.

The US space command said its radar sensors indicated the satellite exploded into 30 to 35 small pieces.

Trees deformed

MOSCOW, Aug 15, (Reuters) — Many plants and animals near the Chernobyl nuclear power plant showed serious abnormalities, among them giant trees with pine needles 10 times their normal size, the Soviet news agency Tass said yesterday.

Genetic defects were found in rodents such as hedgehogs and shrews, Tass said without clarifying, but added that no marked changes had been found in their behaviour.

Mir space station

STAR CITY, Aug 15, (AP) — Two cosmonauts will blast off Sept 6 to reactivate the orbiting space station Mir after a four-month lapse in the Soviet manned space programme dictated by financial problems and technical delays, officials announced today.

Among the highlights of the six-month mission by Alexander Vik-torenko, the flight commander, and Alexander Serebrov, the flight engineer, will be a ride outside Mir in a new "space motorcycle."



Akihito and Michiko bow deeply by an altar at the Nippon Budokan Hall. (Reuters wirephoto)

End of World War II marked

TOKYO, Aug 15, (AP) — Emperor Akihito led 7,000 relatives of war victims today in an annual moment of silence marking the end of World War II and offered a prayer for world peace.

Earlier, at least 10 members of Japan's new cabinet marked the anniversary by visiting a Shinto shrine where war criminals are deified.

Akihito, dressed in a formal morning suit, stood before 25,000 white and yellow chrysanthemums and bowed deeply with Empress Michiko at his side in a ceremony at a hall adjoining the Imperial Palace.

On Aug 15, 1945, Akihito's father, the late emperor Hirohito, announced to a nation, reeling from history's only two atomic bomb attacks, that Japan would surrender to the allies.

Akihito led the participants in a minute of silence at noon (3:00 GMT) — the exact moment when Hirohito 44 years earlier urged the Japanese people in a national radio broadcast to accept unconditional surrender.

It was Akihito's first appearance as emperor at the ceremony. He became emperor after his father died of cancer Jan. 7.

"On the occasion of this day, in remembrance of the war victims, I think of the many people who lost their lives and of their families, and I am deeply saddened," Akihito said.

"I pray, along with all our people, for the future development of our country and for world peace," he said.

Pearl Harbour attack

Japanese pilot dies

TOKYO, Aug 15, (Reuters) — Minoru Genda, a pilot in Japan's Imperial Navy who helped plan the attack on Pearl Harbour, died of heart failure yesterday, 44th anniversary of the end of World War II, local news reports said. He was 84.

Genda, chief of staff of the Navy's first air fleet, helped Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto plan Japan's sneak attack on the US Navy's main Pacific base at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941.

After the war, Genda re-entered military service with the air self-defence force in 1954 and rose to become its chief of staff.

Genda ran successfully for Parliament in 1962 as a member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. He retired from politics in 1986.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, in a short speech, also offered his condolences to the families of war victims and called for world peace.

Kaifu, who became Japan's new leader Aug 9, did not make a visit to Yasukuni shrine, a controversial Shinto shrine where Japan's war dead are deified.

But 10 of the 20 cabinet ministers visited the shrine in the morning.

About 90 Members of Parliament from the governing Liberal Democratic Party also visited the shrine.

Threats prompt tighter security

BEIJING, Aug 15, (AP) — Death threats against Japanese in China have led to the tightening of security to guard against a group calling itself the "Blood-Bright Dare to Die Squad," Japanese residents in Beijing said today.

In letters sent recently to Japanese businesses in China accusing Japan of plotting an economic invasion, the group threatened to kill two "Japanese pirates" — businessmen or tourists — a week beginning today.

The Japanese embassy said no special measures were planned beyond earlier warnings to its nationals to take precautions such as varying their routes to work and staying indoors at night.

But an official at Japan Airlines, which received one of the death threats, and other businessmen working in hotels throughout the city said security had been increased by local authorities.

"We haven't done anything special ourselves, but stricter security measures are being taken by the Public Security Office at the Beijing Airport," said Japan Airlines Manager Shigeaki Suet-sugu.

The Jingjia Hotel, where JAL's ticket and reservations office is located, also has employed additional undercover and uniformed guards to improve security, Suet-sugu said.

About 230 Japanese businessmen living and working at the Minzu hotel in Beijing met with hotel staff to plan extra security precautions, including mandatory registration of visitors in the evenings, said Toshinori Inoue, manager of a trading company.

"All the hotels are looking out for the Japanese," Inoue said. "Of course, we don't really expect anything to happen, but it's better to take precautions," he added.

Almost all Japanese living in China went home after the military's assault on student-led pro-democracy protesters in June, but most Japanese businessmen have since returned.

While Japanese tourists are staying away, most businessmen are going ahead with business as usual, said Kenji Ishii of the Japan Association for Promotion of International Trade.

"You can't spend all day worrying. After all, there are extremists in Japan, too," said Inoue, who has managed a trading company in Beijing for four years.

About 40 Americans were reunited as families in Beijing as embassy personnel began returning to Beijing.

"It's great to have her back," US Ambassador James K. Lilley said of his wife, Sally Booth Lilley, after the arrival of United Airlines Flight 829 from Tokyo, which brought some 40 American family members of embassy staff back to Beijing.

The spouses and children of American embassy personnel were ordered to leave China shortly after the Army shot its way into Beijing to crush pro-democracy protests.



Missionary wounded

Government troops carry Australian missionary Jacqueline Hamill after a shootout ensued on Tuesday in Davao City south of Manila. (Reuters wirephoto)

Flying fugitives back in Brazil

Kidnap drama continues

RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug 15, (Agencies) — Police searched southwestern Brazil today for four kidnappers who fled to Paraguay but then crossed back over the border after Paraguayan authorities opened fire on their plane.

Police chief Francisco Pedro Fontoura in Toledo, a farming city, said police had found a truck stolen by the fugitives 25 miles (40 kilometres) southeast of the city.

"The truck had mechanical problems and was abandoned by the fugitives," Fontoura said by telephone. "I think they're probably holed up in a house nearby, possibly with other criminals."

The fugitives, identified as two married couples, kidnapped nine-year-old Said Agel on Aug 3 in the central city of Goiania. Police discovered their hideout, and the kidnappers exchanged the boy for a \$42,000 ransom and three local television reporters who offered themselves as hostages. One of the reporters later was released.

The kidnappers and the remaining hostages left Goiania in an armoured car and fled through three states to Sao Paulo state, in southwestern Brazil. On Sunday they traded the armoured car for a plane, released the hostages and flew to Paraguay.

Federal police said the plane landed at a clandestine airstrip used by smugglers near the city of Hernandarias, near the border with Brazil. But Paraguayan police fired on the plane and it returned to Brazil yesterday.

The pilot of the plane, Aniceto Oliveira Costa, in a television interview, said the kidnappers freed him and the co-pilot after

landing in Brazil yesterday. He said they then stole a car and tried to flee again across the border into Paraguay, but instead were intercepted by police.

Oliveira Costa said he had tried to land Sunday night at a Paraguayan airport, but the aircraft was "received by bullets." He said co-pilot Roberto Ser-gentini was wounded in the arm and is now being treated.

The Paraguayan embassy in Brasilia confirmed the plane had landed near Hernandarias but denied there was a shootout.

The group, ranging from elderly women to four babies, is scheduled to fly to Vietnam on Thursday. Their departure will mark the biggest repatriation of boat people since the first group left in March.

Van Leeuwen based his statements on a preliminary report by US officials about camps housing 6,700 of Hong Kong's 51,000 boat people.

Van Leeuwen said large numbers of children in a camp at Tai-a Chau island and on the ferries were suffering from "borderline malnutrition," although he did not say how many.

Van Leeuwen's statement is one of several recent criticisms by UN officials of Hong Kong's handling of the boat people crisis.

Last week, another UN official said the camps in Hong Kong were some of the worst he had seen.

Forest fire

KHALKIDHIKI, Greece, Aug 15, (AP) — Wildfires swept through parts of this peninsula in the northeastern part of the country for the third consecutive day today as hundreds of firemen backed by troops and fire-fighting aircraft battled to bring it under control.

He warned the communist country not to stir up radicals in the South by encouraging them to visit the North.

"North Korea must realise that the only thing they can gain by agitating the extremists and radicals within our society and by enticing a few of them to secretly visit Pyongyang is the abhorrence of our people," Roh said.

Talks between the two Koreas has been sporadic, though a number of meetings have been held during the past year in an effort to improve relations.

Woman raped, killed in Davao

(Continued from Page 1)

Brigadier-General Mariano Baccay, area Army commander, said he ordered the attack after learning that the prisoners had killed Hamill and other hostages.

"That was the best option available to us," Baccay said. The prisoners, some of them convicted murderers, seized Hamill and other members of the Joyful Assembly of God, including nine women, on Sunday while the religious group was conducting a Bible-sharing service.

Earlier today, after the military rejected the prisoners' demand for a getaway bus, the convicts tried to shoot their way out of the jail using Hamill and other hostages as human shields.

But at about 10 am (0200 GMT) today, the inmates announced they were leaving the detention centre with their prisoners, said military spokesman Maj. Wilfredo Garcia.

"The hostage-takers started firing when they broke out," Garcia said. "Heavy firing ensued."

Uprising leader Mohammed Naser Sampanani, a former Air Force soldier serving a 27-year sentence for murder, was killed in the attempted getaway, along with the 16-year-old hostage, Julieta Verzosa.

After the first burst of gunfire, the inmates remained holed up inside the compound until the soldiers attacked, officials said.

Before the assault, reporters could see four bodies — three male and one female — stacked up in the area controlled by the inmates. It appeared the four had been slain after the failed break-out.

Former Rep. Jesus Duraza, who was negotiating with the gunmen, said Sampanani had threatened yesterday to "waste all my bullets into the Australian," unless officials provided the convicts with the getaway vehicle.

Gunshots were later heard from inside the jail, suggesting hostages were being killed, the military said.

Hostage-takers, firing tear gas, attacked, hunting down the prisoners inside. The military said it suffered no casualties in the operation.

The other hostages killed were a nine-year-old boy and three women, including a 16-year-old whom the military said Sampanani shot through the chest after he was hit in the head by sniper fire.

The military said Hamill suffered a slight facial wound in the initial shootout.

"One of the hostages... told us he saw her get hit, fall down but that she continued singing," an Australian embassy spokesman said.

He said that before the shooting broke out, Hamill and the other hostages had joined in singing hymns inside the jail.

The prisoners had threatened to kill Hamill yesterday after the military refused to give them a bus to escape. They called off the threat after government negotiators promised possible clemency for them.

There were conflicting reports about how the hostage drama began. Justice Undersecretary Silvestre Bello said the convicts overpowered a guard and then looted an armory for weapons.

But the Rev. James Duconne, who had assisted Sunday's prison services, said the incident began after Sampanani, a prison trustee, asked to take food to the wife of a soldier who lived next to the jail.

Sampanani returned a few moments later with an M-16 rifle, fired warning shots and seized the hostages, Duconne said. The pastor said he was allowed to leave.

Police said most of the inmates were believed to have been part of a group that escaped in April from the Davao penal colony and seized several hostages to protest prison conditions there.

They surrendered after winning a pledge that they would be transferred to the Muntinlupa prison, in a Manila suburb, but the promise was never fulfilled.

Officials said later the transfer could not be carried out because the inmates faced additional charges in Davao city in connection with the April escape.

Bello said he had offered yesterday to fly the inmates to Muntinlupa but they had refused.

It was the second time in eight months that a hostage drama inside a Philippine military camp had ended in a massacre.

Last January, a group of dismissed Muslim policemen seized the military headquarters in southern Zamboanga city and shot dead an Army general and a colonel. Troopers dislodged the gunmen after three days, killing 16 of them.

And now test-tube blood vessels

LONDON, Aug 15. (Reuters).

British scientists said yesterday they may have found a way of growing blood vessels in test tubes which would allow doctors to perform life-saving operations.

Researchers at Killingbeck Hospital in Leeds said their work might allow scientists to manufacture arteries and veins which could be frozen for later use in surgery.

Blood vessels from pigs have been successfully grown at the hospital, where part of a pig's heart was recently used to save a baby's life in a controversial operation. The scientists said they were confident the process could be repeated using human tissue.

Scientists began by taking a sample of muscle cells from blood vessel walls. The cells were placed in a special protein solution in which they started to grow into strong fibres.

The process was carried out around a glass rod, which was then removed, leaving the new home-grown blood vessel. It can take several weeks to complete, but researchers have already grown vessels up to six inches (15 cm) long.

Davies said it could be three years before the test-tube blood vessels are used in operations.

The idea has been tried in the United States but scientists there were unable to grow vessels strong enough to carry blood.

At present, heart by-pass operations to replace diseased blood vessels are taken from a section of the leg.

Davies said that the technique, if successful, would mean that patients would no longer have veins stripped out of their legs to be used in by-pass operations.

Segregation

In a landmark settlement, inmates with AIDS at a prison in Connecticut in the northeastern United States have won the end to a state policy that segregated them and restricted them to a hospital ward, their lawyers announced yesterday.

Activists said the unprecedented agreement should have an impact on litigation and prison policy across the United States.

In an out-of-court settlement of a lawsuit filed last year, state officials agreed to end the policy under which prisoners with AIDS were kept in a hospital ward for 23 hours a day and barred from educational, recreational, and religious programmes available to other inmates.

The settlement at Somers state prison will affect pending cases in Alabama and California, said Judy Greenspan, AIDS information director at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) national prison project.

Jailed

A Canadian man who believed bloodletting would help him combat AIDS was sentenced to 15 months in jail for donating blood despite knowing he had tested positive for the virus that causes the deadly disease.

James Thornton, 27, of Ottawa, Ontario, will appeal the sentence that was handed down yesterday, his lawyer told United Press International.

Thornton had heard that bloodletting had been used with some success against AIDS in California, and believed the unproven technique would help him fight the HIV virus that causes AIDS, Attorney Lawrence Greenspan said.

Thornton was convicted June 15 of a common nuisance for having donated blood to the Red Cross on November 16, 1987.

Greenspan called Thornton's sentence "unnecessarily harsh" because the Red Cross tests detected the HIV virus in his blood and no one was harmed.

"He did not do what he did to hurt other people," Greenspan said.

Thornton was self-employed as a housekeeper and had no previous criminal record.

Many poor blacks and Hispanics infected with the AIDS virus are not seeking new life-prolonging treatments because they don't have enough information and distrust the medical establishment, doctors and social workers say.

Minorities in the United States are under-represented in AIDS clinical trials where experimental therapies are tested, and they often don't seek treatment until they are sick enough to qualify for free medical care, said AIDS caseworkers attending a government conference on AIDS and minorities.

Often, the poor are suspicious of attempts to get them into medical research, she said. Many hear only that treatments such as AZT make patients sick and don't understand that the drug can cripple the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, said Brown.

Nicotine impairs brain cells, research shows

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug 15. (AP). A new study shows that nicotine impairs rather than stimulates brain cells — contrary to earlier belief — and may explain the drug's calming effect, a pharmacologist reported yesterday.

Linda Wong of the University of Texas-Galveston said that nicotine, a substance found in tobacco, suppresses brain cells of rats that control basic behaviours such as learning, memory and emotion.

Wong's conclusions, presented at the 40th annual meeting of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, contradict the traditional belief that nicotine stimulates brain cells.

For years, scientists have thought that the drug excites some neurons, or nerve cells, which in turn inhibit other brain functions to induce a calming effect on smokers.

Wong said her studies suggest that nicotine directly reduces neuron activity in people, and may contribute to relieving anxiety.

Wong, who is to receive her doctorate in September, said her findings were based on a two-year study in which nicotine was applied to tissue removed from the brains of rats.

She said the tissue was from a small area at the base of the brain that integrates learning, memory and emotions. The nicotine either was applied directly or included in a simulated spinal fluid absorbed by the tissue.

They found that nicotine makes it more difficult for neurons to fire signals to other neurons because the drug causes the affected neuron to release potassium, which plays a critical role in the transmission of nervous impulses.

Wong declined to say that she was certain the same effect would be duplicated in people who consume nicotine, but said that appeared to be the case.

Such studies may also provide information about diseases linked to neuron firing, such as Alzheimer's, Wong said. She said nicotine affects a neural receptor that appears to be a factor associated with the degenerative disease.

PEOPLE AND PLACES



'Cold-eyed shark'

Time hasn't healed the scars for actress Goldie Hawn and singer-actor Bill Hudson, who has described his ex-wife as a "cold-eyed shark."

Hawn said Hudson had "devasted" the couple's two children with his recent remarks to People magazine. The couple were divorced nine years ago.

Hudson, who recently married actress Cindy Williams, said in an interview that Hawn, who has been living with Kurt Russell for six years, was not honouring his visiting rights to their two children, Oliver, 13, and Kate, 10.

"If Goldie's in control, she's happy," Hudson said. "As soon as that bubble is burst," he added, she turns into "a cold-eyed shark."

The telephone survey turned up mixed thoughts about religion in public schools, with 65 per cent saying they believed it would help promote values among children today. (UPI)

Fowl play

For the birds

RALEIGH, North Carolina, Aug 15. (AP). A homeless man killed seven pigeons for the peanuts passerby had thrown the birds, authorities said.

"It's a pigeon got 'em not first, he was grabbing the bird and waving it," said Police Lt. R.C. Frick.

Passerby near the state capitol complained to police Sunday night. Eladio Castillo, 65, was cited for violating an ordinance against killing birds in an area declared a bird sanctuary by the city, Frick said.

The offence carries a fine equal to court costs. He was freed for a hearing Sept 18.

The man was within two blocks of two soup kitchens, both of which were closed.

MADISON, Wisconsin: Had Mark Schlappi been born three days later he would have won the \$3.2 million Lotto America jackpot Saturday night, state lottery officials said Monday.

Schlappi was one of 22 players who matched five of the six numbers in the drawing. Although Schlappi won \$1,192 in the drawing, he would have won the jackpot had he been born on the 19th instead of the 16th.

Schlappi, an avid triathlete, chose five figures using transportation numbers. For the sixth number he chose his birthdate.

The next Lotto America drawing for megabucks players is Wednesday, when the jackpot will total \$10 million. Lotto America is known as Megabucks in Wisconsin. (UPI)

BOULDER, Colorado: The Wino, a British rock band of the 1960s, fell short of a sellout for their 25th anniversary concert. But for devoted fans, their performance at the University of Colorado still was a hit.

The band's reprisals of favourites — from the overture to Tannhauser, the explosive Baba O'Riley and My Generation — had the crowd cheering.

Fewer than 47,000 of the 57,000 tickets pre-purchased by Boulder Radio Station KBKO were sold. (AP)

BOSTON: Michael Kennedy, son of the late Robert F. Kennedy, has rounded up tons of medical supplies, thousands of sneakers and two congressmen for a trip to Africa.

Kennedy said the trip to Angola, Namibia and the Congo had political as well as humanitarian aims.

"We are showing a gesture from America that we are truly interested in that part of the world," said Kennedy, 31, chairman of the non-profit Citizens Energy Corp.

Kennedy's mother, Ethel, and wife Vicki, planned to accompany him on the trip through an area his father visited in the 1960s. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Former US President Ronald Reagan will take a break in writing his memoirs with a September trip to the East Coast to receive a special United Nations medal for his peace efforts, his spokesman said.

The trip will also feature a Reagan speech before the United Way Charities, presentation of an award at the west point military academy and a luncheon in his honour sponsored by the New York Stock Exchange.

The business council for the United Nations medal will be presented to Reagan during the 23rd annual United Nations Ambassadors' Dinner on Sept 20, spokesman Mark Weinberg said. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Finnish conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen will succeed Andre Previn as musical director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, according to a newspaper report.

A report said Salonen, 31, will be the 11th conductor in the orchestra's 70-year history.

Salonen made his US debut in 1984 with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and went on to lead the orchestras of West Berlin, New York, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Paris, Montreal, Minneapolis and Washington.

Salonen also is a composer and has championed contemporary and avant-garde works. (AP)

BUENOS AIRES: The body of entertainer Hago del Carril, considered one of the two greatest tango, lay in state Monday in the city council building.

Del Carril, 76, died Sunday of a heart attack at the Cardiovascular Centre of Buenos Aires.

He began his career as a singer in 1929, and was considered second only to the late Carlos Gardel as Argentina's leading tango interpreter.

A staunch Peronist, Del Carril supported the movement in the 1940s, and his recording of the party's march, 'The Peronist Boys,' with the Argentine National Symphony, is still widely played. (AP)

NEW YORK: A survey of 1,000 adults around the country shows 17 per cent favour public school prayer and 68 per cent would prefer a moment of silence, Parents magazine reported Monday.

Twelve per cent said they were against both prayer and a moment of silence.

The telephone survey turned up mixed thoughts about religion in public schools, with 65 per cent saying they believed it would help promote values among children today. (UPI)

VIENNA, Austria: Nobel peace prize holder Mother Teresa arrived in communist Albania Monday on a private visit, the Albanian state news agency ATA reported.

According to the news agency she wished to pay homage to the graves of family members in the Albanian capital Tirana. The brief report gave no further details.

Mother Teresa, a Roman Catholic missionary who has cared for the destitute and dying in India and other countries, was born in the Yugoslav town of Spoke of ethnic Albanian parents. (AP)

CHICAGO: The prosecution on Monday dropped 12-year-old rape and kidnapping charges against Gary Dotson, 10 years after he was convicted on testimony later recanted by his accuser.

Prosecutors took the action, which clears Dotson of any legal wrongdoing in the case, immediately after a defence motion for a new trial was granted by circuit Judge Thomas R. Fitzgerald.

Attorney Thomas Breen, saying high-tech genetic tests prove Dotson's innocence, had asked Fitzgerald for a new trial. (AP)

NEWARK, New Jersey: The National Park Service has decided against raising the sunken ferry Ellis Island, which carried 12 million immigrants to new lives.

The Park Service can't afford the estimated \$20,000 it would cost to raise the 48.7-metre (160-foot) ferry, Yugoslav built near Jacksonville, Fla., of water on Ellis Island, said spokesman Ellis Sheen-Hammond.

The government eventually may try to bring up pieces of the 83-year-old boat, which sank at the former immigration station in 1968, she said. (AP)

JACKSONVILLE, Florida: A Navy petty officer has filed a federal lawsuit seeking payment of a \$100,000 life insurance policy held by a shipmate killed in the April 19 gun-turret explosion aboard the USS Iowa.

The lawsuit was filed by Kenneth L. Truitt in US District Court in Miami on Monday against Ameri Life Insurance Co. of San Rafael, California, according to Ellis Rubin, a Miami attorney representing Truitt.

Truitt, now stationed at Mayport Naval Station near Jacksonville, was the sole beneficiary of a \$50,000 double-indemnity policy held by Clayton Hartwig, one of 47 sailors killed in the Iowa explosion. Both Hartwig and Truitt were gunners mates on the Iowa. (AP)

NEW YORK: Church affiliation in the United States is growing, but not as quickly as the population, the latest statistics showed Monday.

Members of Christian Religious Congregations increased by less than 1 per cent from 142.7 million to 143.8 million in 1987, the latest year for which figures have been gathered.

But that increase lagged slightly behind population growth. As a result, the percentage of Americans affiliated with a Christian denomination declined downward a bit from 58.7 per cent of the population to 58.6 per cent. (AP)

NEW YORK: Janet Calver says her 14-day struggle to survive aboard a life raft in the Atlantic taught her that love does not always conquer all.

Nicholas Abbott, Jr., 30, the man Calver was considering marrying, swam away from the raft after 10 days aboard and has not been found.

The couple's sailboat sank in a storm between Bermuda and Long Island, New York. (AP)



A group of girls smile for the camera in the slum of Naples. (Reuters wirephoto)

Children, the downtrodden of Naples

NAPLES, Italy, Aug 15. (Reuters).

When Antonio Faria was 13 years old his father was murdered by the Naples Mafia and he moved out into the street, sleeping in railway sidings and scavenging for food.

At 14, he says, he was sharing a bed with a transvestite prostitute, became a heroin addict and tried several times to kill himself by slashing his wrists and arms.

Now 17, he says he has been in and out of juvenile prison eight times for extortion, pushing drugs and stealing everything from cars and hi-fis to weapons.

Bright, articulate and friendly, Antonio is one of thousands of Neapolitan children caught in a vicious trap of poverty, drugs and crime in the West's sixth largest industrial power.

With youth unemployment as high as one in three and the chaotic southern city failing to provide many basic social services, up to half the children in poorer districts abandon school before the official leaving age of 14 to earn a living peddling in the streets.

"For these children there is no alternative to crime," said Gabriella Lanzara, a Justice Ministry consultant on juvenile crime and a leading campaigner for children's welfare.

"The problems of crime and drugs are similar in other big cities like Milan, Turin and Rome, but only in Naples there is an almost total lack of social services," Lanzara said.

Faced with the harsh need to survive in a world offering little hope for the future, many turn for help to the Camorra, the Naples Mafia, which employs them in crime rackets or illegal workshops and offers some protection.

"Sometimes it is their families who send them out on the street to steal or push drugs. Then when they are caught the children are blamed by their own parents who want to avoid being punished themselves," Lanzara said.

In the narrow, crowded streets of Naples' working class centre thousands of unregistered stall-holders spill over the pavements night and day to hawk their wares, many of them stolen or counterfeit.

Displaying the showmanship for which the city is famous, children as young as nine or 10 run the stalls, flatter potential customers in the street, offer to look after their cars or bring them coffee from nearby bars.

The scene would not be out of place in the souks and bazaars of North Africa. As in the cities of Morocco and Egypt the children who have jobs, however long the hours and bad the pay, are the lucky ones.

Gilcom hangs over outlying districts such as 167, a rubbish-strewn complex of faceless tower blocks so bleak it has never been given a proper name.

Many children in these areas, where community centres are non-existent and even shops are hard to find, are left alone while their parents go out to seek work. They turn to drugs and petty crime from an early age.

Six thousand children in the Naples area are in charity homes, five times the national average for an area of similar population. Most of them are sent by parents unable to afford to bring them up themselves.

"These institutions go largely unchecked and are seedbeds of bullying, bad hygiene and crime. Five per cent of kids there end up in prison, which means probably 30 per cent of them are involved in illegal activity," Lanzara said.

The state provides just two institutional homes, mostly for children taken compulsorily into care, and two juvenile prisons for offenders between 14 and 18.

Life as an 'uninvited' child Unwanted and unhappy

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, Aug 15. (AP). Unwanted children carry their emotional neediness into young adulthood, according to a study of a group whose mothers tried twice to abort them, a researcher said yesterday.

At ages 21 to 23, the unwanted children showed greater risk of problems than a matched sample of other children, said Henry P. David, a Maryland researcher who did the study in Czechoslovakia. At least one US psychiatrist questioned the study's credibility.

The problems included greater proneness to drug and alcohol abuse or crime, less job satisfaction, more conflict with co-workers and supervisors, less satisfaction with friends and more disappointments in love, David said.

Mothers were matched for age, socioeconomic status and the presence of a husband or partner in the home, the statement said.

The study tracked 220 people born in 1961 to 1963 whose mothers had twice sought to abort them, and compared them to 220 children whose mothers had wanted or at least accepted their pregnancies.

The denied abortions were blocked by Czech authorities who ruled on abortion requests, David said. That power has since been abolished, partly as a result of the study, David said.

The study also found evidence of more problems among unwanted children at ages 9 and 14 to 16, David said.

Confidence

Among married people, the unwanted group more often judged their marriages to be less happy, and significantly more often said they wished they were not married or not married to their current partner.

David is the director of the Transnational Family Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, a non-profit organisation that studies reproductive behaviour.

He described the work at a news conference at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association.

Arthur Bodin, past president of the Psychological Association, said the study was "a landmark in the field of family psychology."

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Association's division of family psychology, said he has "considerable confidence in the findings."

But Samuel A. Nigro, a child, adolescent and family psychiatrist in the Cleveland, Ohio, area, said his review of the data made him conclude the study was not credible.

The study rests on comparisons between wanted and unwanted children, but the families of the children were not similar enough to make valid comparisons possible, he said in a telephone interview.

They differed on such factors as parental age, number of siblings and the percentage with a stepfather, said Nigro, who is president of a local physicians group that opposes abortion.

David, in a statement distributed at the press conference, said the children were matched for age, sex, school class, birth order and number of siblings. But some three-child families had to be matched with two-child families, the statement said.

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Citizens fighting war on drugs

LOS ANGELES, Aug 15. (AP).

Residents of drug-infested neighbourhoods around the United States are starting to fight back against narcotics and violence, but face an uphill battle against gun-toting gangs.

In New York City's Brooklyn district, Carlos Hernandez last Saturday buried his 34-year-old wife, Maria, who was killed when a gunman opened fire through her apartment window. Authorities believe it was retaliation for the anti-drug efforts by her and her husband, who has received numerous death threats.

Their neighbourhood has been plagued by an influx of crack, the relatively cheap, highly addictive cocaine derivative that has become the latest street plague.

Hernandez and hundreds of supporters led a two-mile (three-kilometre) walk from the couple's home to the cemetery, vowing to continue the battle against drugs.

"Drug dealers gotta go," the crowd chanted. Some carried signs with slogans like: "Death to drug dealers."

Among those attending the funeral mass was Mayor Edward Koch, who said the answer to the drug problem won't be the military, the police or more drug education efforts.

"Those most important to the elimination of the drug scourge are people like Maria and Carlos Hernandez," Koch said. The city should tell Hernandez and others with the courage to take a stand, "You are not alone," he added.

In Los Angeles, a coalition of community leaders, social workers, business people, church members and civil rights activists has launched a project called "Taking Our Community Back."

It is aimed primarily at the Avalon Garden Housing Project, which lies at the crack-addicted nerve centre of the city's gang wars.

Co-ordinated by Brotherhood Crusade, a social-service group, the programme has recruited hundreds of volunteers to walk day and night through a 110-block section of some of the city's worst streets, knocking on doors, handing out literature, painting over graffiti, clearing alleys and confronting drug dealers and gang members.

"We're not going to allow our community to be held hostage," says Danny Bakewell, president and founder of Brotherhood Crusade.

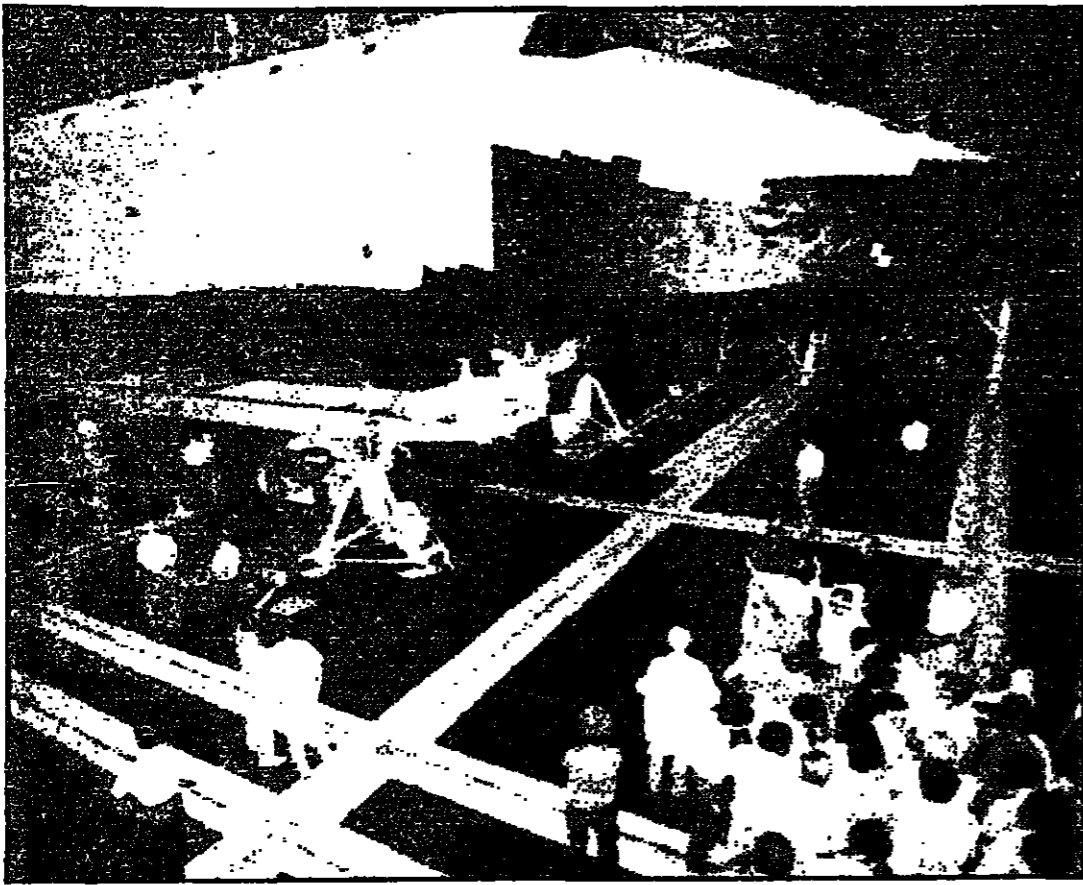
The goal is to take control of the region for the next 30 to 45 days and give residents the motivation and courage to carry on.

The patrols, until now scattered around the neighbourhood, began in force over the weekend. Hundreds of men, some responding to a full-page advertisement in a local newspaper, have volunteered to walk the streets.

Police and city officials are co-operating with the organisers and call the effort one of the city's most innovative. Residents also are optimistic.

But Los Angeles county averages more than one gang killing a day, and some people suggest the programme, while long on good intentions, may be short on staying power.

"They're certainly on the right track, but they've got to ignite people in the community to carry it on," said deputy chief Bernard Parks, head of the department's anti-gang operations. "Sustaining it and being able to



Mission completed

Columbia sustained only minor damage to its heat-shield tiles during its first flight in 3-1/2 years and had slight equipment problems during the secret military mission, NASA said yesterday.

A steering thruster failed and the pilot's seat suddenly jerked backward during launch, but none of the problems is considered serious, said a National Aeronautics and Space Administration spokeswoman.

Columbia "looks absolutely beautiful" after its five-day, one-hour classified mission, said Ann Montgomery, in charge of processing the shuttle.

Columbia landed at this Mojave desert military base on Sunday morning after its mission to deploy a satellite, which experts have said is a modified KH-12 spy satellite designed to photograph military targets. The astronaut also reportedly performed experiments related to the space-based "Star Wars" anti-missile defence system, formally known as the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Picture shows a group from the US House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services led by chairman Les Aspin, views the "Buran" shuttle at Baikonur Cosmodrome (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF



Leaders arrested

Jorge Ouezada, the secretary-general of the Mining Federation in Peru shows journalists a list of strike leaders who were arrested days before the national strike that began on Aug 14 throughout Peru. (Reuters wirephoto)



Australian charged

Peter Joseph van Tongeren (centre) leader of the Australian Nationalist Movement is led away by detectives today after being charged with arson and burglary. He was arrested with 11 others, members of an alleged racist group. (Reuters wirephoto)

Balloon rides resume

ALICE SPRINGS, Australia, Aug 15, (Reuters): Balloon flights have resumed over central Australia just two days after an accident in which 13 people were killed.

Operators of the Dawn Joy Rides said today there had been some cancellations after a hot-air balloon grazed the gondola of another balloon and plunged 1,000 feet (300 metres) with a torn canopy on Sunday.

"People still want to go up. It's like getting back on your horse after falling off," Outback Ballooning Company manager Jane Sanby said.

The opposition yesterday rebuffed a demand by military strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega's government that they sign a statement protesting US military action in the nation as both sides resumed talks aimed at solving Panama's political stalemate.

The talks, mediated by the Organisation of American States, had resumed after a week-long recess.

Director sues

COPENHAGEN, Aug 15, (UPI): A leading Danish artist and film director went to court yesterday in a civil suit brought to refute a 1976 government ruling that the Evangelists have copyright precedence to the Bible's passages on the life of Jesus Christ.

The controversial avant-garde director, Jens Jorgen Thorsen, was to call Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman and Scandinavia's Vanguardist artist Wilhelm Freddie as witnesses in the \$400,000 suit.

The case before the Copenhagen district court came 13 years after the Danish state withdrew a \$120,000 grant to Thorsen for the production of a film loosely based on the life of Jesus Christ.

Logging protested

WASHINGTON, Aug 15, (UPI): Members of the radical US environmental group Earth First! perched in trees in several states yesterday to protest the logging of America's forests.

In Washington State, three people were secured to platforms at the 60-foot (18 m) level of Western hemlocks in the mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest near Darrington, and two others were perched in centuries-old Douglas firs in the Colville National Forest on the northeastern side of the state.

In Colorado, US Forest Service District ranger George Edwards in Granby said three or four people were up in trees, while another three or four others were providing ground support in the Bowen timber sale area in the Arapaho National Forest, six miles (10 km) northwest of Grand Lake.

Knee operation

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, Aug 15, (AP): Botswana Queen Masire underwent a minor knee operation after falling on stairs in his office, the Botswana Press Agency reported today.

The report, monitored by the South African Press Association, said the operation on Masire's right knee was performed successfully yesterday.

The operation was performed in London.

The report, based on a statement from Masire's office, said he was flown to London for the operation after falling last week.

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Britain, Argentina hold talks

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 15, (AP): For the first time since the 1982 Falklands war, British and Argentine officials are discussing the restoration of diplomatic and trade ties, officials say.

Argentina's willingness to defer discussion of its claim to the Falkland Islands, which it calls the Malvinas, led to the breakthrough.

UN and other officials, speaking yesterday on condition of anonymity, said diplomats from the British and Argentine UN delegations are meeting privately this week in New York.

"We cannot deny that the situation is very dynamic, and something could happen in the next few days or weeks," one

said privately. None of the officials would provide details of the talks or speculate on their outcome.

Carlos Saul Menem, who was inaugurated in July as Argentina's new President, dropped his country's insistence that Argentina's claim to the islands be the first step in any talks.

Britain's position on the islands has always been that its inhabitants must decide their status.

About 2,000 British sheepherders and their descendants inhabit the islands, and they express almost unanimous preference for continuing their colonial relationship with Great Britain.

Azeri talks open in Baku

BAKU, Soviet Union, Aug 15, (Reuters): Communist Party officials in the Soviet republic of Azerbaijan opened talks today with the unofficial Popular Front, but its leaders said it was unlikely a general strike in September could be averted.

A spokesman for the Popular Front said the new umbrella organisation had accepted the offer of informal talks made at a mass rally yesterday by Teibhan Orudzhov, a secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party central committee.

But the spokesman said more talks did not satisfy the group's demands, including legal recognition. "Holding talks is not sufficient. They must register the Popular Front officially and they must meet our other demands as well," he said.

The Front wants more autonomy for Azerbaijan from Moscow and retention of the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Nagim Ragimov, an editor and Front activist, called the talks "a trick to fool the people," predicting their failure and an eventual general strike hitting public transport and the valuable oil industry this autumn.

The negotiations, the first apparent gesture toward the Front from the local communist leadership, followed days of rising tensions capped by a lightning strike which organisers said affected 60 enterprises in Baku yesterday.

Some 150,000 people gathered in Baku's Lenin Square yesterday, chanting "strike, strike" and holding the demands for more autonomy and keeping Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan.

Karabakh's majority Armenian population wants the region united with Armenia, and more than 100 Armenians and Azerbaijanis have died in clashes over the region in the past 18 months in one of the Kremlin's thorniest ethnic problems.

Today's talks followed a report by Tass news agency of more deaths in the region. Tass said Interior Ministry officials had gone there to take new measures to stop the violence.

An official in Nagorno-Karabakh said today that two residents, both Azerbaijanis, had died last week in clashes.

He said the Azerbaijan population in Nagorno-Karabakh had also held a strike today, but it was not clear whether it was co-ordinated with the work stoppages in Baku. The Armenians in Karabakh have been on strike since early May.

Interior Ministry officials are directing transportation on the region's roads, blocked repeatedly by violence despite the presence of 4,000 troops in the area.

In addition to its other problems, Karabakh is now plagued by a severe drought and its reservoir has completely dried up. Citizens of Stepanakert, the territory's capital, now have water for just one hour a day, the official said by telephone.

Arkady Volsky, chairman of the special Kremlin committee governing the region since January, has been hospitalised for about a week, said the official, who works for the committee.

He said Volsky suffered from a chronic condition which had been aggravated by 16-hour working days in Stepanakert.

Local activists in Baku charged the Tass report of trouble in Nagorno-Karabakh was designed to distract attention from the political demands of the Popular Front.

Pravda today denounced political movements in the restive Baltic republics, saying they had become too nationalistic and were allowing anti-Soviet activities and "bourgeois" practices.

Police attacked by masked rioters in North Ireland

Arrival of British troops remembered

LONDONDERRY, Northern Ireland, Aug 15, (AP): Masked rioters attacked police in Londonderry with rocks and homemade bombs early today, a day after a peaceful march by IRA backers marked the arrival of British troops here in 1969.

Police fired plastic bullets and two men were hit in the early morning clash, but their injuries were not believed to be serious the Royal Ulster Constabulary said.

The constabulary said the violence flared in Bogside, a Roman Catholic stronghold and scene of some of the worst sectarian violence when the "troubles" broke out over British rule in Northern Ireland 20 years ago.

There were reports of scattered violence in Belfast, where police fired plastic bullets to disperse youths who set fire to vehicles in largely Roman Catholic West Belfast yesterday.

The sectarian violence between Roman Catholics and Protestants

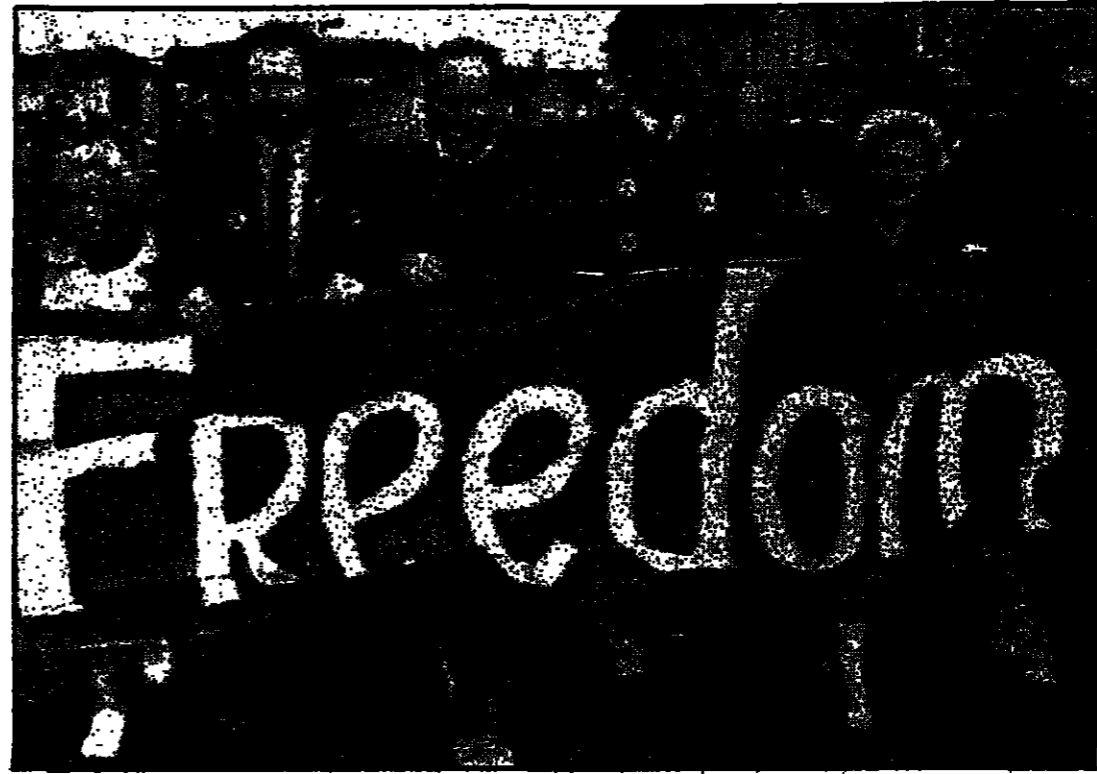
prompted the deployment of British troops to Londonderry in 1969. Marking the 20-year anniversary yesterday several thousand supporters of the outlawed Irish Republican Army marched peacefully from the Roman Catholic stronghold of Bogside to Bogside the scene of today's violence.

They walked into the old walled city, a traditional Protestant stronghold and past a building wrecked by an Irish Republican Army bomb recently.

"We've all risked our lives for 20 years and I say, fight on," said Martin McGuinness, former Londonderry commander for the outlawed IRA and now a member of its legal political wing, Sinn Fein.

"I'm here to pay tribute to the troops of the Irish Republican Army," he said during the march yesterday.

In the violence early today, police officers reportedly fired their guns



The three leaders of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), are flanked by supporters as they lead a protest march last night. (Reuters wirephoto)



A young rioter stands by a burning vehicle in West Belfast. (Reuters wirephoto)

Chance to collect plastic bullets

Ulster boys like a riot

BELFAST, Aug 15, (Reuters): For 12-year-old Christopher, yesterday's riot was a good one. He picked up five plastic bullets to add to his souvenir collection.

"I've got over 200 of them now," he said as he picked through the remains of a truckload of frozen chickens turned into a blazing barbecue by petrol bombs.

Police, on full alert as nationalists angrily marked the 20th anniversary of the deployment of British troops in Northern Ireland, fired plastic bullets to disperse teenage demonstrators in a dawn riot yesterday.

Christopher was woken early but was not complaining. He and his friends in the Ballymurphy estate were out in the early morning light hunting for plastic bullets on the blackened road.

To the soldiers who patrol the bombed-out and gutted ghetto and fear an Irish Republican Army (IRA) sniper's bullet at every corner, Ballymurphy estate is known as "Belfast's Beirut."

Christopher's 10-year-old friend Jim said with undisguised enthusiasm: "There'll be plenty more rioting again tonight. There will be more petrol bombs."

Like miniature vultures they picked through the charred chickens and, waving a blackened carcass,

quipped to reporters: "Want to buy one for two bob (ten pence)?"

Ghetto children, reveling in all the attention as the international media poured into Belfast for the anniversary, posed for photos on the smouldering lorry.

Smoke swirled down the street from burning tyres, stray dogs sniffed out an extra meal and teenagers clutching cans of beer and cider stood idly watching.

Some children offered to sell plastic bullets to reporters as souvenirs. Christopher scorned that idea. "I'll keep all mine, maybe give some away."

Last week 15-year-old Seamus Duffy was fatally wounded by a plastic bullet in a night of rioting. He was the 17th person to be killed by them in 20 years.

The media image of young children hurling stones at armoured cars on the streets of Belfast has been all too familiar over the past two decades since British troops began patrolling the streets to separate warring Roman Catholics and Protestants.

At the height of the troubles in the early 1970s, teenagers would riot in the day and be home in the evening in time to watch themselves on television.

This week, as a British cameraman zoomed in on a ghetto child sucking his lollipop, his young friend murmured: "Got your social deprivation shot, then?"

Pettersson, sentenced July 27 to

Nobel worth \$455,000

STOCKHOLM, Aug 15, (Reuters): The guardians of the Nobel prizes said today the 1989 winners would receive three million Swedish krona (\$455,000) each, a rise of 20 per cent from last year, as a result of high investment returns.

The Nobel Foundation said its operating profit rose 70 per cent to almost 58 million crowns (\$8.8 million) in 1988.

Presented

Nobel prize winners are named in October each year and the awards are presented in Stockholm and Oslo in December.

The Nobel Foundation was established by the dynamite inventor and industrialist Alfred Nobel, who died in 1896.

Pettersson faces more charge

STOCKHOLM, Aug 15, (AP): A court will hear appeals from the prosecution and the defence in the case of Christer Pettersson, convicted of the 1986 murder of prime minister Olof Palme, the national TV news agency said today.

Prosecutor Anders Heintz asked the Svea court of appeals to convict Pettersson for what he called the attempted murder of Palme's widow Lisbeth, who was slightly wounded in the slaying.

Pettersson, sentenced July 27 to

life imprisonment for Palme's murder, was convicted of endangering Mrs Palme's life, a lesser charge.

He shot at Lisbeth Palme to kill her. There was no other reason for him to shoot at her, Heintz told TV. The defence appealed the murder conviction. The court was to set a date to hear the appeals on Friday, TV said.

Palme, the leading figure in Swedish politics for two decades, was shot to death on Feb 28, 1986, while walking home from a late movie.

Former Mexican president's brother-in-law arrested in US agent murder case

LOS ANGELES, Aug 15, (AP): The brother-in-law of former Mexican president Luis Echeverria was flown here from Texas yesterday and ordered held without bail as a material witness in the 1985 torture-slaying of a US drug agent.

Several informants have named Ruben Zuno-Arce as a major drug trafficker in Guadalajara, Mexico, and have indicated he talked about US drug agent Enrique Camarena's murder, said a government affidavit filed with the arrest warrant for Zuno-Arce.

Zuno-Arce's attorney and friend, Jeremiah

Handy of San Antonio, said his client is a successful Mexican businessman who deals in lumber and vegetables, and has no history of drug trafficking.

Zuno-Arce, a resident of Mascota, Mexico, was arrested Wednesday in San Antonio by US Immigration and Naturalisation Service agents.

Zuno-Arce is the brother of Echeverria's wife. Members of his family attended today's court session. Echeverria was president of Mexico from 1970 to 1976.

US district judge Edward Rafeedie, who

issued the arrest warrant last week, said he would hold a bail hearing next Monday and ordered Zuno-Arce held without bound until then.

Handy said not setting bail on a prisoner who has not been charged was unusual, but "this is an unusual case."

The kidnapping and torture-slaying of Camarena and his pilot, Alfredo Zavala-Avelar, turned into an international incident. The US Drug Enforcement Administration has vowed to pursue every person involved in the killings.

Several members of the Mexican federal

police force were linked to the slayings. One, Raul Lopez Alvarez, was convicted in Los Angeles last week with two drug traffickers.

A Panamanian bank at which two managers were accused of working with a major cocaine cartel pleaded guilty to money laundering charges in federal court yesterday and was fined \$5 million.

Banco de Occidente de Panama S.A. was believed to be the first foreign bank to plead guilty to US money laundering charges. The penalty was the largest ever levied in federal court against a bank for money laundering.

Strike disrupts life in Sri Lanka

Premadasa prepares response

COLOMBO, Aug 15, (Agencies): Soldiers drove public buses to get people to their jobs today during a daylong strike called by Sinhalese extremists, but most businesses closed their doors and sent employees home.

Sinhalese radicals, who have waged a campaign of assassinations and strikes against the government for the past two years, called their latest strike to protest the continuing deployment of Indian peacekeeping troops in the predominantly Tamil northeast.

Some shops and offices that had opened in the morning soon pulled down their shutters. By mid-afternoon, traffic was at a virtual halt in Colombo and other parts of the predominantly Sinhalese south.

Soldiers in camouflage uniforms patrolled the city. Armed, steel-helmeted policemen were posted at major intersections and near bus stops.



Sheikha Hasina: yet to get a chance

Hasina hopeful

(Continued from Page 1)

On a bright night, Hasina's life was suddenly transformed. From a quiet, unassuming woman, she became a political figure, a tragic heroine and the inheritor of her father's political will. She had a new mission in life to avenge her father's brutal slaying and to bring the Awami League, the party that led Bangladesh into independence, back to power.

In the immediate years after her father's assassination, fear for her own life and the safety of her husband and children compelled her to flee to India under the protection of the Indian government.

In 1982, the country's military rulers finally gave her the nod to return home. The military's grip on the country was secure enough to cope with any emotional upheaval wrought by Sheikh's daughter.

It was an emotional moment for Hasina and her now-depleted family to return to the house of her father's greatest triumph and tragedy.

Sheikh Mujib, Bangladesh's first president, was the most famous house in Dhaka city. Taxi drivers, rickshaw pullers, passersby — will point to it in awe and with pride. There is no memorial for Sheikh Mujib in Dhaka. There is no need. The house serves adequately as one.

Situated opposite the lake in Dharmad, an upper middle class residential area, the house is a simple two-story structure, just like many others in the area. Only the policemen who guard its entrance and who scrutinize each and every visitor give you an indication of its importance.

President Ranasinghe Premadasa, whose government has been negotiating with India on a timetable for the withdrawal of the peacekeeping force, urged people to refrain from violence, but he spoke primarily about problems in Tamil areas.

"No room should be left for the slightest undermining of the sovereignty of Sri Lanka," Premadasa said in an allusion to concern that India would not withdraw while the Tamil insurrection continued.

Arrangements should be made for the accelerated withdrawal of the Indian armed forces," the Sinhalese President said in a statement released by his government.

Sinhalese radicals began their campaign of violence against the government in July 1987 to protest peace overtures made to rebel groups within the minority Tamil community.

Tamil guerrillas have been fighting for an independent homeland in northern Sri Lanka since 1983, claiming they are discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese.

Tamils make up 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. The Sinhalese make up 75 per cent of the population and control the government and the military.

India sponsored a peace plan in 1987 that offered Tamils limited autonomy if their guerrillas gave up their weapons. The plan was rejected by the guerrillas because of the sympathies of its own 60 million Tamils for the rebel cause.

But the largest Tamil rebel group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, rejected the peace accord and began attacking the Indian soldiers.

The Sinhalese radicals, meanwhile, claimed the plan gave too many concessions to the Tamils and said the deployment of Indian troops on Sri Lankan soil infringed on the nation's sovereignty.

They began assassinating government officials, ruling party members, soldiers and police.

The Indian force is deployed only in northeastern Sri Lanka where most members of the Tamil ethnic minority live, but their presence has enraged ultranationalists from the Sinhalese majority in central and southern Sri Lanka.

Military officials reported at least more seven killings, which they blamed on Sinhalese radicals. The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said the victims included two soldiers ambushed early today in the central town of Nuwara Eliya.

I killed Gen Vaidya, admits Sikh

NEW DELHI, Aug 15, (AP): A Sikh extremist yesterday confessed in court that he assassinated a former Indian Army chief, and another Sikh confessed to being an accomplice in the 1986 murder, news reports said.

Sukhdev Singh confessed to the killing and Harjinder Singh confessed to being an accomplice during the trial being held in-camera in the western town of Pune, Press Trust of India said.

The news agency said the confessions were made public by Harjinder Singh's lawyer, Harshad Nimbalkar, after they

were recorded before Judge V.L. Rukar.

The two, along with a third Sikh, have been accused in the Aug 10, 1986, murder of Gen. Arunkumar Shridhar Vaidya in Pune. The retired chief of army was shot in his car by a gunman riding a motorcycle.

"I killed Gen. Vaidya," Nimbalkar quoted Sukhdev Singh as telling the court, according to PTI.

Nimbalkar said his client Harjinder Singh who is also known as Jinda, confessed he was driving the motorcycle that Sukhdev Singh, also known as Sukha,

rode while fleeing, PTI reported.

"At the time of killing General Vaidya... I was driving the black ... motorcycle and in my presence Sukha shot and killed General Vaidya. Sukha was the pillion rider and he shot from the range of about six to seven feet (1.8 to two metres)," Nimbalkar quoted Harjinder Singh as saying.

Nimbalkar said Sukhdev Singh, however, identified the driver as Mathura Singh who allegedly shot himself in July, 1987, when confronted by police in the northern state of Punjab, according to

PTI.

Sikh extremists are fighting since 1982 to set up a Sikh nation called Khalistan, in the agriculturally rich Punjab state that borders Pakistan.

A Sikh militant group had owned responsibility for Vaidya's killing, apparently in retaliation for an army raid on Sikhdom's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple, in June 1984 that left 1,200 people dead.

Vaidya was the chief of the army during the raid to flush out Sikh militants who had turned the temple into an armed fortress.



Rallying point

Pakistanis visit the tomb in Islamabad of Zia-ul-Haq, who died in a mysterious plane crash a year ago. Opponents of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto are

promoting the death anniversary of the late president as a focus of opposition to her government. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rajiv tough; 50 hurt in riots

(Continued from Page 1)

alliance," Rajiv said in his televised speech. "Traitors have also come to the fore. They can roam freely. They are even in Parliament and one of them is even patronising the assassins of Mrs Indira Gandhi."

His charge was directed at Janata Dal party lawmaker Ram Jethmalani, one of India's foremost lawyers and an attorney for two Sikhs executed in January for the Oct 31, 1984, slaying of Indira.

Rajiv said his mother had done everything to strengthen the country.

"I remember four-and-a-half or five years ago when she was killed we were going through a period with dark clouds hovering over the country," he said.

"They robbed me of my mother but I was determined not to allow a break up of the country whatever the sacrifice... if she taught me anything it was that no sacrifice was too big for the country even if it meant sacrificing one's life."

Before he began his address, Rajiv ordered removal of a bullet-proof screen from behind which he was to speak.

Police, fearing attacks by Sikh separatists in the capital, set up road blocks all over the city and sharpshooters occupied buildings near the Red Fort.

Rajiv did not name any political party but lambasted the opposition and accused them of attempting to block a bill in Parliament which seeks to give powers to village councils.

"In the last four to five years India has made tremendous progress. The darkness of

Zia's son accuses US of coverup

RAWALPINDI, Aug 15, (Reuters): A son of the late Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq today accused the United States of covering up the cause of a plane crash that killed his father and the US ambassador to Islamabad.

"It was a cover up from the US side," Ejaz-ul-Haq told a news conference two days before the first anniversary of the mysterious August 17 crash in Pakistan's Punjab province that also killed 29 other people, including five Army generals.

He said his suspicions arose from the failure of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation to undertake an inquiry immediately after the crash, although two US citizens, ambassador Arnold Raphel and a senior military official, were among those killed.

A three-member FBI team visited Pakistan in June, 10 months later, and Ejaz said one of them told him they had come at Pakistan's request and to "satisfy some congressional."

He said he did not know if orders from the US State Department or a request from Islamabad kept the FBI from coming earlier.

Ejaz, who believes his father was assassinated, has already accused the Pakistani government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of trying to close the affair. The government denies the charge.

Ejaz, the elder of Zia's two sons, said he wanted a thorough investigation to find out who killed his father.

Zia's death ended 11 years of military rule, paving the way for elections last November won by Benazir's Pakistan People's Party.

A report by a Pakistan Air Force inquiry team said the crash of Zia's plane near the town of Bahawalpur was probably caused by "a criminal act or sabotage."

Crossed lines
RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug 15, (Reuters): A plague of crossed lines is sweeping the Brazilian capital Brasilia, but some of the country's top people are fighting back with humour.

The weekly magazine Veja reported that a leading candidate in November's presidential election Fernando Collor de Mello is so used to unwelcome calls on his private line, he answers: "Federal police, can I help you?"

Fighting for the Ganges

VARANASI, India, Aug 15, (UPI): Environmental scientists and high-tech engineers have recruited an unlikely ally in their battle to clean up the pollution from the holy Ganges River.

When monsoon rains slacken in late August, some 3,500 baby soft-shelled scavenger turtles will be released just upstream from Varanasi with the hope that they will devour the human corpses that are tossed daily into the Ganges in accordance with Hindu tenets.

The turtles were fished out of existence from the area by hungry villagers about five years ago. To prevent that from happening again, armed guards posted along the city's 5-mile (8 km) riverbank will protect the specially bred turtles as they join the fight to save one of history's most celebrated rivers.

Traditionally, Hindus burn their dead on pyres built on Varanasi's magnificent "ghats" — huge stone steps descending to the river's edge. Some 150 tons of human ashes are dumped in the Ganges each month.

But custom forbids burning the bodies of children, epidemic disease victims and "sadhus," India's itinerant Hindu holy men. So, each year untold thousands of bodies are tied to stones and sunk in the river. An estimated 60,000 animal carcasses are disposed of in a similar way.

"This is an old custom and no government can prevail against it. We can only try to make people understand that it does no good for that poor child or diseased person, but does harm to the Ganges," said A.K. Ghoshal, the executive engineer in charge of Varanasi's pollution control effort.

Optimistic
Ghoshal conceded that using the turtles to attack the problem "is very experimental," but added he was optimistic the plan would succeed.

The turtles are only one element of the ambitious Ganges action plan, which Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi launched in Varanasi in northeast India in 1986 and which will have cost almost \$180 million by March 1991.

The cleanup involves 23 cities along the 1,500-mile (2,400 km) river. But Varanasi, one of India's holiest pilgrimage sites and one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, is the focus.

The snow-fed Ganges is sacred to Hindus as the source of spiritual redemption. Some 20,000 people bathe at Varanasi's ghats each day, also scooping handfuls of water into their mouths in an ancient purification ritual.

"It's like taking a mouthful of God," said silk merchant R.K. Tripathi, who bathes daily in the river, close to his Varanasi home.

The Ganges also is a vital natural resource, providing irrigation to 43 per cent of India's farmland and drainage for eight states. A central transportation route and water source. It is the lifeline of 15.5 million people living in 100 cities and towns and thousands of villages along its shores, from the Himalayas to the Bay of Bengal.

Poisoned
In recent decades, however, the river has been poisoned by the ballooning population dependent on it. Untreated human excrement flows from sewer outlets, chemical wastes drain from tanneries, paper mills and insecticide plants, while silt from deforested mountain slopes turns the holy waters a murky brown.

Rural poverty, ethnic migration and an astronomical birth rate fuelled Varanasi's growth from a population of 29,000 in 1941 to 1.1 million today, overwhelming its once-sophisticated sewer and drainage system.

But in the past three years, the Ganges action plan has made substantial progress in Varanasi, with pollution brought to acceptable standards from levels five times higher than those deemed safe, Ghoshal said.

"By next June, the Ganges from upstream to downstream of Varanasi will be devoid of all municipal pollution," he said.

Much of the progress is due to the renovation and rehabilitation of the city's sewer system, including the diversion to a treatment plant of eight major drains that once emptied directly into the river near the ghats.

The system, which serves only half the city, is to be expanded to the rest of Varanasi by next June with the addition of a new treatment plant that will turn sludge into fertiliser, Ghoshal said.

Expansion
The municipal water supply, which takes water directly from the river, will be expanded to double its capacity to encourage people to launder their clothes at home rather than in the river.

Other steps being taken include a massive publicity campaign that exhorts residents and visitors to treat the sacred river with respect.

"Those who try to keep Ganges clean will get eternal bliss," read posters plastered on the walls above the ghats. Signs command bathers to cash at home first and to use the 51 public toilets newly built around the city.

"The present action has had an impact. But it's not something you can do and forget about," said Ranjit Singh, head of the Central Ganges Authority, which oversees the river.

"The population keeps growing, systems break down and there is always more to do," he said.

But the pilgrims who throng the river's edge blissfully ignore the filth that still chokes the waters.

"I came all the way from Bangladesh to bathe in Holy Mother Ganga," said Shankar Baba, a former high school teacher who renounced worldly concerns to become an orange-robed Hindu holy man. "I bathe every day, as people have for thousands of years. Nothing could keep us away."

Seven killed in Karachi Ethnic clashes

KARACHI, Aug 15, (UPI): Youths opened indiscriminate gunfire in Karachi today, sparking ethnic clashes and riots, witnesses said. Hospital sources said the violence left seven people dead and eight injured.

Authorities later imposed a curfew and deployed troops in the three neighbourhoods of the southern port city where the trouble occurred. Violence between four of Pakistan's main ethnic groups has left more than 500 people dead in Karachi and surrounding Sindh province in the past two years.

Witnesses said youths in a stolen car fired automatic weapons indiscriminately at passersby in an eastern district early today, killing two people and injuring two others.

Turkish hunger strikers under intensive medical care; intellectuals on solidarity fast

ANKARA, Aug 15, (Agencies): At least three out of almost 2,000 Turkish prisoners on hunger strike in protest at harsh jail rules were under intensive medical care today after fasting for 47 days, a human rights official said.

Five hunger strikers were taken into intensive care in the western city of Aydin last night.

"Three of the five were sent to a hospital in Izmir today. Two of them no longer need intensive care after accepting medical treatment there," Sinan Yilmaz of Turkey's Human Rights Association said.

Izmir hospital officials refused to comment. Two convicted Kurdish activists died in Aydin jail on Aug 3 after a 35-day fast in protest at an August 1988 decree imposing tougher security measures to prevent jail breaks. The protest spread to 12 other jails after their deaths.

In Istanbul five prominent authors, journalists or academics began a two-day fast in support of the hunger strikers. "A drama is being lived out in Turkish jails," they said in a statement.

The group included Aziz Nesin, 74, a popular author and head of Turkey's Writers Union, and

Emil Galip Sandalci, 67, the president of the Istanbul chapter of the Human Rights Association.

The five held a news conference at the Pera Palas hotel before retiring to their rooms to begin their hunger strike.

Nesin said they were shocked with the lack of reaction from the public to the hunger strikes in prisons that have already claimed two lives.

The group demanded reforms that would end human rights abuses in Turkey's prisons. "We have watched with sadness every effort so far crumble against the wall of unyielding official attitudes," a joint statement said.

The first hunger strike began at the Eskişehir prison six weeks ago by inmates protesting harsh discipline following the discovery of two escape tunnels in May.

The prisoners are asking for less restrictions on their meetings with lawyers and relatives, permission for food packages to be sent from outside, and return to their typewriters, radios and tapes that have been taken away. They also want more time in the prison yard for exercise.

2 parties back Walesa

Kiszczak gives up coalition plan



Walesa waves to the crowd when he paid a flying visit to Warsaw yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

WARSAW, Aug. 15, (AP): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa today welcomed Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak's decision to resign, and one of Poland's two minor parties endorsed Solidarity's bid to form the next government.

The developments came one day after Kiszczak said he had given up the idea of forming a coalition under his leadership because of opposition from Solidarity. He urged instead that pro-communist United Peasant Party chairman Roman Malinowski try to form the proposed "grand coalition" government that would include communists and the independent movement.

Solidarity has rejected such offers previously, saying only a government headed by the opposition and dominated by non-communists will have the credibility necessary to solve Poland's political and economic problems.

Associates have said Walesa himself might be willing to serve as prime minister in such a government, though Walesa publicly has dismissed the idea.

Walesa said today in a statement that "General Kiszczak's declaration expressing readiness to resign from continuation of his mission of creating a government and his function of prime minister was received by himself as resulting from a feeling of responsibility for Poland, and a step opening new possibilities to solve the current crisis."

The nomination of Malinowski, a non-communist long allied with the ruling party, apparently was the party's effort to offer an alternative to a Solidarity-led government that was unacceptable to hardliners in Poland and neighbouring East bloc countries.

Malinowski has not publicly replied to Kiszczak's suggestion that he form the government, although a Peasant Party leader said Monday he did not think Malinowski would accept a nomination as prime minister because of opposition from Solidarity.

The Democratic Party also supported Walesa's proposal to form a government, according to a statement carried today by the state-run PAP news agency.

Call for action against Pretoria

GENEVA, Aug. 15, (KUNA):

Several Arab states yesterday called for greater international pressure against South Africa and criticised countries which provided support to the apartheid regime.

Participating in the discussion on the elimination of racial discrimination at the human rights sub-commission here, the Syrian observer, Nabila Chaalan, said it was a source of deep regret that the allies of apartheid had not yet abandoned their support.

"The close co-operation between Pretoria and Tel Aviv regime in all fields, which aimed at imposing hegemony over the African and the Arab regions, was well known to everyone," she pointed out.

"Those, who by the force of the international public opinion, had applied selective sanctions, had done so merely as a symbolic gesture," Nabila Chaalan said, adding that Israel was the largest exporter of arms to South Africa.

Aidid Ikhanaf, expert from Somalia, noted that the major purpose of pressure against the apartheid regime was to achieve its dismantling and not its reformation. That could be done by pressures from inside as well as from outside, he contended.

The Algerian expert, Fatma Zohra Kentini, observed that the new forms and trends in co-operation with South Africa were disturbing, with the entry of new business corporations last year.

"Many companies are still maintaining indirect links with South Africa. More than 1200 companies are operating through subsidiaries. Thus, transfer of technology, so vital to South African economy, is still guaranteed," she said.

Pointing out the limitations of the international measures, she said new forms of investment measures were now being adopted and some of these were more profitable than direct foreign investment.

Hussein Raian, of the International Federation for the Elimination of all forms of racial discrimination pointed out that Israel continued to maintain a close relationship with South Africa.

He said that United States intelligence agencies had spotted a missile, which was capable of carrying nuclear warheads, at a test site at Armon, near Cape Town.

Satellite photos of the testing range revealed that it was identical to the one in the Negev desert from which Israel launched a spy satellite last September, he added.

Israel was also developing an advanced version of Jericho missile with South Africa, Raian said, adding that the relationship between Israel and the apartheid regime was such that they even had a number of "sister-cities."

Mohammed Ali Mottaghi-Mejad, the Iranian observer, said the apartheid regime would crumble only when comprehensive sanctions were applied.

Iran strongly supported the imposition of such sanctions and refuted the view that they would hurt the blacks more than the whites, he stated.

He expressed concern over the collaboration between the Zionist regime and South Africa, particularly in the field of nuclear technology.

Deploing the provision of economic and military support to the apartheid regime by certain Western countries, the Iranian representative called on all justice-loving people to unite to combat all forms of racial discrimination.

De Klerk sworn in; defends self

A new face to apartheid: Tutu

PRETORIA, Aug. 15, (AP): National Party leader F.W. De Klerk was sworn in today as acting President after leading a cabinet revolt that forced President P.W. Botha to resign after 11 years in power.

De Klerk held a news conference after taking the oath of office and praised the 73-year-old departing president as one of South Africa's greatest leaders.

"His greatest gift to South Africa is the fact that he has put our country on the road to fundamental reform, that he has successfully started pulling South Africa out of its dead-end streets," De Klerk said.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Botha initiated South Africa's first halting steps toward reform of its policies of racial segregation, known as apartheid. Those efforts slowed after nation-wide black unrest erupted in 1984.

De Klerk said he will convene a new Parliament on Sept. 13, a week after national elections. He is expected to win in those elections and be chosen by an electoral Congress the next day to serve a full five-year term as President.

The cabinet, which had forced Botha to resign yesterday, met early today to appoint De Klerk acting President.

A day earlier, cabinet members told the 73-year-old Botha, who suffered a stroke Jan. 18, to use his health as an excuse for resigning 23 days before the elections.

But the defiant Botha said his health was not the issue, and attacked De Klerk personally in what some officials viewed as a bitter and undignified farewell speech broadcast last night on national television.

"After all these years of my best efforts for the National Party, and for the government of this country as well as the security of our country, I am being ignored by ministers serving in my cabinet," Botha said.

His pre-recorded statement was given entirely in Afrikaans, an action considered an insult to English-speaking National Party supporters.

De Klerk defended himself in a television interview immediately following Botha's speech, and said the President's departure "was in the best interest of South Africa."

After his swearing-in, De Klerk said of Botha, "his place in history among the great leaders that our country produced is already assured."

He added: "There is no doubt that we stand on the threshold of a new era in South Africa and southern Africa."

"I trust that the people of South Africa will show the courage and vision required to break the cycle of conflict, tension and isolation that has gripped us for so long," De Klerk said. "We want to build a new South Africa in which all people participate in decisions affecting their lives."

But Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a leading anti-apartheid activist, said of De Klerk, "all he is doing is giving a new face to apartheid."

Nonetheless, Tutu said in an interview from his Cape Town office, he felt sorry for Botha. "He looked a pathetic figure. Here we saw a coup. They didn't use guns, but they certainly put pistols to his head."

De Klerk and the other cabinet ministers were more sympathetic to Botha than the public and news media today.

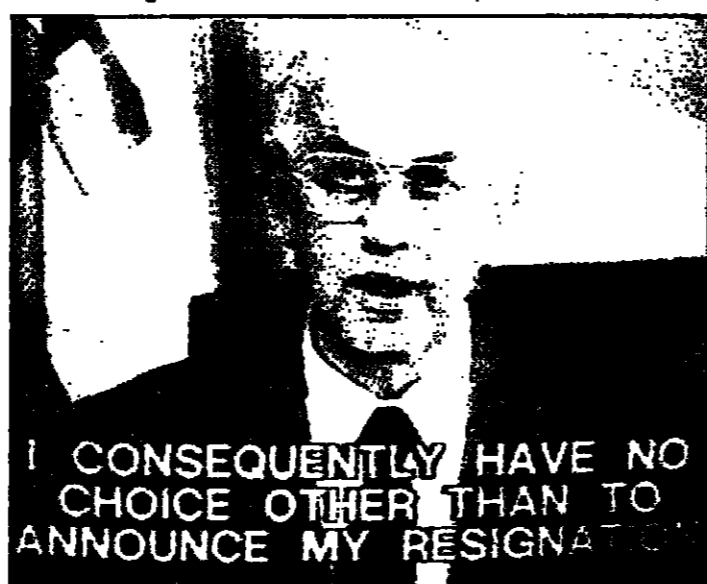
The Beeld newspaper, a long-time supporter, declared, "the last image that will linger for many years in that of a blind Samson who with his last strength tried to overturn the pillars of his party."

Business Day of Johannesburg called the outgoing President a "domineering bully of vile temper and vengeful instincts."

The newspaper added, "his resignation, delivered with a bitter vengefulness towards his own political party and in disregard of the wider interests of his nation, will be greeted with relief by most South Africans."



De Klerk, leader of South Africa's ruling National Party being sworn in as acting President as his wife looks on. (Reuters wirephoto)



Botha makes his last public appearance as President with the announcement of his resignation in a television address. (Reuters wirephoto)

S. African churches support Defiance campaign

CAPE TOWN, Aug. 15, (Reuters): South African church leaders, including Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, backed a national campaign of apartheid defiance today and said they would hold related services and demonstrations.

Anglican Bishop Charles Albertyn said clergymen would stage illegal demonstrations from Tuesday and would help defy the segregation of public facilities including whites-only beaches.

Leaders of the Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Reformed churches said they supported the two-week-old defiance campaign by the self-styled Mass Democratic Movement (MDM).

But Moravian church leader Martin Wessels said at a news conference the churches had their own plans, which would be "effected in compassionate solidarity with the MDM."

"Our campaign, called 'Stand for the truth,' has the long term goal ... of moving forward until we have dismantled apartheid and we have a non-racial democracy in South Africa."

"We call on all God-loving people to stand with us in our campaign in our beloved country," he said.

Tutu did not speak in support of the campaign, but identified himself by name when clergymen supporting the programme were asked to introduce themselves.

The church programme will run in parallel with the MDM campaign launched two weeks ago when thousands of sick blacks reported for treatment at whites-only hospitals.

Former political detainees in Cape Town have said publicly that they are violating police restrictions on their movements.



Palestinian arrested Israeli soldiers push and pull a Palestinian suspect through a main street as he is arrested following a petrol bomb attack which wounded four Israeli government workers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rebels blast Kabul airport

KABUL, Aug. 15, (Agencies): Afghan rebels blasted Kabul airport with a rocket barrage early today, narrowly missing an incoming airliner, sending travellers and staff running for cover and closing down flights.

Airport officials, witnesses and independent military sources said at least nine rockets hit the airport. They said two rockets nearly hit the main passenger terminal, one landing in front and one behind the building.

Airport officials and witnesses said another rocket landed on the tarmac just after an international flight of Afghanistan's Ariana Airlines touched down and was taxiing towards the terminal.

There was no damage to the airliner and only slight damage to the runway. Airport officials said all flights from the airport had been halted.

The airport is probably the most important military target in Kabul for the Western-backed rebels.

It is the city's lifeline when rebels cut the roads. Soviet transport planes make dozens of daily flights into the capital carrying huge quantities of arms and military equipment as well as food and clothing.

The airport is also an important military base. The Afghan Air Force keeps part of its force of attack helicopters, fighter planes and transport jets there.

Since last Thursday, the rebels appear to have shifted their fire away from civilian areas of the capital.

Government spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said today that in the past four weeks, 299 rockets landed in Kabul, killing 188 people and injuring 483, all civilians.

He said the worst recent rebel rocket attack was on August 7 when 84 rockets landed in the capital.

Amani said yesterday that the security belt around Kabul is being extended to prevent long-range rockets from hitting the capital.

Amani said the security zone was being extended from 30 kilometres (19 miles) to between 40 and 60 kilometres.

Amani said the government had no evidence that surface-to-surface missiles with a 60-kilometre (38-mile) range had been used against Kabul, but it was expecting the US-backed rebels fighting to overthrow President Najib to start using new long-range rockets.

ALGIERS, Aug. 15, (AP): Police patrolled the suburb of Daks outside Constantine, Algeria's second largest city, after demonstrators blocked a road and destroyed public buildings, the daily newspaper El Moudjahid reported today.

The newspaper said the eastern Algerian suburb was calm today, but that police remained in the village after a day of demonstrations that turned violent Sunday. There were no details provided on the cause of the demonstration or about injuries or arrests.

Police used tear-gas yesterday to disperse demonstrators protesting inadequate housing in two other villages near the capital of Algiers, an unidentified source told the French news agency Agence France-Press today.

Several hundred young men in the villages of Corso and Tidjalline accused local authorities of unfairly allocating public housing and called for their resignations, AFP reported.

Syria moves to heal rift

PLO operations welcomed

KUWAIT, Aug. 15, (AP): Syria's defence minister has offered to allow Yasser Arafat's Palestinian commandos to operate against Israel from Syrian territory provided they "co-ordinate with the Syrian Army," a Kuwaiti daily reported today.

Gen. Mustafa Tlass said in an interview in Damascus, the Syrian capital: "We're going to receive the brunt of the Israeli retaliation. Hence we are entitled to know the target and timing of the operations."

"If Arafat wants commando operations of this kind, he is not only welcome but we will help him," he said.

Tlass' comments came amid indications of new moves to heal a six-year rift between Syria's President Hafez Assad and the PLO chairman over control of the Palestinian cause.

Syria has long prohibited Palestinians from mounting raids against Israel directly from Syrian territory to avoid Israeli retaliation.

But Tlass expressed the view that Israel would not initiate a new war against his country, arguing that such a war would "cost the Israelis too much, increase the Soviet Union's stubbornness toward Israel, prove the Americans are not serious in finding a just solution (in the Middle East) and embarrass pro-US Arabs."

Tlass denied Israeli and American reports that Syria was manufacturing chemical weapons.

"Such reports are utterly groundless. They are intended to intimidate us and justify Israel's possession of such destructive weapons," the Kuwaiti daily quoted him as saying.

He charged that the United States has supplied Israel with nuclear and chemical weapons, but said Syria would not try to produce nuclear weapons as it depended on the nuclear deterrent of the Soviet Union.

"Such a deterrent will prevent

the Israelis from using nuclear arms against us," he added.

Tlass was also quoted as saying that Syria will provide Muslim and leftist allies in Lebanon with all the weapons, including surface-to-surface missiles, they need in the 14-year-old civil war against the Christians.

The Syrians, who have 40,000 troops in Lebanon, have been battling the Christians against Soviet-designed Frog-7 missiles they are reported to have received from Iraq.

He claimed the Syrians were in Lebanon to fight Israel.

"Israel is present in South Lebanon as well as the southwest of Syria. We don't differentiate between fighting Israel here in Syria and there in Lebanon," he said.

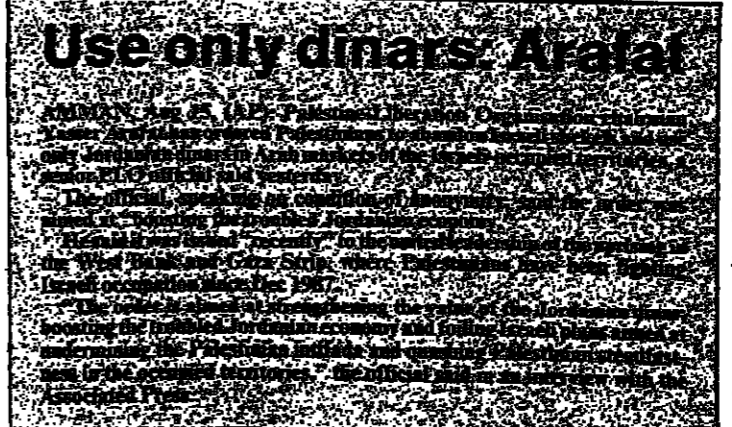
Israel occupies a border buffer zone in South Lebanon. It also occupies Syria's Golan Heights, captured in the 1967 war and later annexed.

Meanwhile the United States, pledging to keep talking to the PLO despite deep policy differences, says it aims for a Mideast peace agreement that promotes Palestinian political rights.

A conciliatory statement issued yesterday in Washington and Tunisia sought to repair the recent rift between the Bush administration and Arafat's group while also urging the PLO to approve an Israel plan for elections and negotiations on limited autonomy.

The statement by US Ambassador Robert Pelletreau Jr. said the United States seeks a settlement based on Israel giving up territory in exchange for peace. Also listed as "firm principles" in the US statement were "security and recognition for Israel and Palestinian political rights."

The Soviet Union has welcomed the results of the 5th general Congress of Palestinian movement, "Fatah," which was recently held in Tunis.



Use only dinars Arafat

Israel takes harsh action

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 15, (Agencies): Israeli troops, reacting to a Palestinian firebomb attack, imposed a curfew, welded shut Arab stores and sealed off an alley in the occupied West Bank town of Ramallah, security sources said today.

They said the measures signalled harsh action by the new West Bank commander, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, to try to quash the 20-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Arab merchants throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip closed their stores in accordance with a strike call by the fundamentalist Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, Palestinians said.

In Ramallah, troops stacked bricks at the entrance to the alley on Palestine street where petrol bombs were thrown yesterday wounding four Israeli tax collectors travelling in a car.

Troops imposed a curfew on the main commercial street and about 20 stores were welded shut until further notice.

Mordechai, 44, took command this month of the Army's central region, which includes the West Bank, bringing a reputation as an apolitical hardliner from his experience as head of "Southern Command," which includes the Gaza Strip.

"He wants to show his intentions. He wants to use some of the policies he used in the Gaza Strip," an security source said.

The Gaza Strip, Mordechai did not hesitate to use collective punishments against anti-Israeli violence, including blanket curfews on all the strip's 650,000 Palestinians.

After a Palestinian petrol bomb attack on an Army jeep in central Gaza city, Mordechai punished merchants by closing about 10 shops and dynamiting the second floor of the building from which the firebomb was hurled.

Israeli newspapers attacked Mordechai's actions in Ramallah as unprecedented in the West Bank and said he would soon implement other harsh new steps to combat the uprising.

Former central commander major-General Amram Mitzna, known as a political dove, was the target of much right-wing criticism about the Army's response to the uprising. But he did institute a policy of destroying the homes of petrol bomb throwers.

The mass-circulation daily Maariv quoted Army officers as saying Mordechai was concerned about a rise in firebomb attacks, which they linked to last week's call by Fatah, the main PLO group, for increased armed struggle against Israel.

Maariv said the Army had decided to revert to its policy of demolishing the homes of Arabs suspected or convicted of throwing petrol bombs. It said the Army might also destroy the homes of suspects arrested in several months.

An Army spokeswoman refused to comment on the newspaper reports.

In the West Bank city of Nabhus, a 23-year-old Palestinian wounded by soldiers during a clash in Fara refugee camp died from his wounds, the Army said.

Ahmed Mohamed Abdel Ayoub was the 597th Palestinian to die in the uprising against 22 years of Israeli occupation. Forty Jews have also died in the violence.

Several thousand residents raised outlawed Palestinian flags and chanted pro-PLO slogans at a funeral procession today for Ayoub in the Fara camp where he lived 15 kilometres (nine miles) from Nabhus.

The Army confined the 5,000 residents of Fara to their homes after the funeral.

An Israeli military court in occupied Gaza has sentenced 27 years old Omar Abu Amer to 13 years in prison allegedly for belonging to the Fatah movement of the PLO and making fire bombs, radio Israel said.

The radio added that he also was convicted for possessing weapons.

Abu Amer was released in 1985 in an exchange of prisoners with a Damascus-based Palestinian group.

Algerian police patrol suburb after protests

ALGIERS, Aug. 15, (AP): Police patrolled the suburb of Daks outside Constantine, Algeria's second largest city, after demonstrators blocked a road and destroyed public buildings, the daily newspaper El Moudjahid reported today.

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Several hundred young men in the villages of Corso and Tidjalline accused local authorities of unfairly allocating public housing and called for their resignations, AFP reported.

It was the third demonstration over housing in Corso since the beginning of August, AFP said.

Algeria was rocked last year by violent demonstrations in the capital brought on by a declining standard of living in the financially stricken North African nation. The demonstrations led to a series of constitutional reforms, a diminishing of the power of the ruling party and a restructuring of the government of President Chadli Benjedid.

Iraq rejects Iran's offer

BAGHDAD, Aug 15, (Reuters): Iraq brushed aside today an Iranian offer to hold direct peace talks if Baghdad withdrew its remaining troops from Iranian territory.

Information Minister Latif Nassif Al-Jassem said any pullout should be decided in the course of face-to-face negotiations.

"The presence (of troops) on the ground is the result of eight years of fighting... and is subject to negotiations," he told Reuters.

Iranian spiritual leader Ali Khamenei said yesterday Tehran was ready for direct talks once opposing forces had withdrawn behind international borders.

Iran says Iraqi troops still occupy 2,600 square km (1,000 square miles) of its territory, one year after the ceasefire.

"We are after concrete results, not speeches," Jassem said of Khamenei's statement, an apparent softening of Tehran's previous insistence on UN mediation in the peace talks which began after the guns fell silent last August.

Jassem said Iran had gone back on an original agreement with UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to enter direct talks and accused Tehran of procrastination.

Discussions in Geneva and New York have been conducted so far with representatives of Iraq and Iran addressing each other through Perez de Cuellar or his special envoy Jan Eliasson.

Jassem said Iraq had no territorial ambitions on Iran, but owned the bitterly disputed Shatt Al-Arab waterway. "Shatt Al-Arab is Iraqi," he declared.

He said Iraq was ready to implement UN Security Council (ceasefire) resolution 598.

"Through negotiations we can settle all the problems between the two sides. They will understand what we want and we will understand what they want," he said.

US makes progress in hostage contacts

'Breakthrough months away'

WASHINGTON, Aug 15, (Agencies): The US government said yesterday it has made significant progress in contacts aimed at helping win the release of US hostages in Lebanon but cautioned that any breakthrough probably would be months, rather than weeks, away.

White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said he would not equate progress on the diplomatic front with the eventual release of the hostages.

"Those two elements are a long way apart, so I would not compare the two," he said.

Fitzwater said the United States has gleaned "considerable amounts of information" from contacts with other countries.

"We think generally the progress has been significant," Fitzwater said. Asked if information was being received from Iran, he replied, "from all sources."

The United States does not have diplomatic relations with Iran but has been communicating through third-party contacts, such as the Swiss government.

Asked what he meant by "significant" progress, Fitzwater said, "we're not prepared to say, but (it is) in the general issue of understanding the problem better, improving relations and hopefully to get some kind of break down the road."

He added, "I think we're looking at a long-term situation, months, not weeks."

Fitzwater said progress on the diplomatic front and the eventual release of the hostages were "two different ends of the spectrum..."

"And I ask you to apply a little understanding to the fact that progress means a lot on a diplomatic level and on discussions and comments being made back and forth as opposed to your final line, which is getting the hostages out," the spokesman said.

Fitzwater declined comment on a statement by Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, that Iran will never hold talks with the United States.

Shortly before Khamenei made his statement, however, Iran renewed an offer to help free the hostages.

Fitzwater said the contradictory statements "typifies why we would not like to react to every comment that is made."

Iran's foreign minister today poured cold water on hopes of securing the release of the hostages, but Syrian leaders appeared determined to discuss the issue with him.

Ali Akbar Velayati, considered a pro-Western moderate, told reporters after meeting Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa: "Our talks with our Syrian brothers will not have anything to do with the hostage issue since this issue does not concern us."

He declared that Israel must unconditionally release a pro-Iranian cleric, Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid, kidnapped by its commandos in South Lebanon July 28.

That indicated that the Iranians do not plan to use their influence with the Lebanese kidnap groups to free their Western captives until Obeid is released.

An Iranian newspaper, apparently stung by President George Bush's decision not to free Iranian assets held in US banks, said today the Western hostage issue had nothing to do with Iran and was a purely Lebanese issue.

Iran's official IRNA news agency quoted the daily Kayhan International as saying that for Bush to pin his hopes on Iran for help in securing in return was "wishful thinking."

The newspaper's reaction came as Iranian President-elect Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, considered a pragmatist who earlier offered to help gain freedom for Western hostages in Lebanon, was facing opposition from hardliners within the Iranian leadership opposed to any contacts with the West.

US Army special forces — with Israeli co-operation — planned to rescue American hostages in Lebanon three years ago, but the operation was scuttled due to revelations about the Iran-Contra scandal. Two authors have claimed.

A highly-secret Pentagon unit, the intelligence support activity (ISA), had planned the mission.

About 50 special warfare commandos of the US Army's "Delta Force" and US Navy's "Seal Team 6" were to have joined forces with agents of the pro-Israeli Lebanese forces militia to win the freedom of eight American hostages.

At 6 am (0300 GMT) the first infantry wave attacked the eastern side of the "fist" at the villages of Ain Remmaneh and Ain Sayde.

To our right, about two miles (four km) away was the airport and Beirut's Shiite mosque suburbs.

To our left was Aley, a Druze mountain stronghold.

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Axis sealed to oust Aoun

(Continued from Page 1)

for the sixth day, more people fled Beirut, which once had a population of 1.5 million. Some 700,000 people are now estimated to have left the battered city.

Aoun says the Syrian troops must leave Lebanon before he will negotiate any political concessions to the Muslims allied to Damascus.

Lebanese Muslim leaders held talks in Damascus attended by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa.

They said afterwards they had formed an alliance to oust Aoun. Lebanese political sources said they asked Velayati for financial and military support.

Aoun, in turn, called on Lebanese of all political affiliations and religions to unite.

The leaders of 16 factions, including Iranian-backed Shiite groups and radical Palestinian commandos, said after the seven-hour parley that they agreed to "join forces to foil the plot and bring down its main instrument, Aoun."

"A solution must be based on ending Israeli occupation and abolishing the sectarian system. But the priority is to bring down Aoun and eliminate the military redlines," they said in a joint statement.

Druze leader Wafiq Jumbal, Syria's main ally, said: "No redlines anymore. We shall undertake any action we deem appropriate at any place, any time and by any means."

A UN source said Council members might hold private consultations on the secretary-general's request later in the day and possibly go into an immediate session.

"The secretary-general feels that in view of the deep relationship between the United Nations and Lebanon it is the duty and responsibility of the organisation to prevent further bloodshed in that country and to support the efforts led by the tripartite committee of the Arab League for a resolution of the conflict," a UN spokesman said.

King Hassan of Morocco discussed the crisis in Lebanon today with envoys from the Arab League and the French government, the official news agency MAP said.

Saudi Arabia called for a ceasefire in the bloody Lebanese fighting today amid reports that Arab League mediation may be renewed.

Also, the Gulf News Agency reported in Bahrain that foreign ministers of the six-member GCC will meet Aug 28-29 in Riyadh to discuss Lebanon.

At the Algerian embassy in Riyadh, officials said that a lightning visit yesterday by Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi to Jeddah for talks with Fahd was related to the deadlocked mission of a Arab League mediation panel.

The Riyadh diplomatic sources said intensive diplomatic contacts were under way among the three Arab nations to find a way of enforcing a ceasefire preliminary to a reconciliation plan.

Meanwhile, Iraq's Foreign Undersecretary Nizar Hamdoun renewed Baghdad's call for another emergency Arab summit "as soon as possible" to deal with the deteriorating situation in Lebanon.



A small child cries in the rubble of a destroyed house in W. Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)



An old man sits on the rubble of his house destroyed in E. Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

Highlights

'World indifference': Israel's Vice-Premier Shimon Peres deplored what he called world indifference to the carnage in Lebanon, but said Israel would not get involved with its northern neighbour.

Speaking to reporters after a tour of Kiryat Shmona, northern development town, Peres, who is also finance minister, said:

"The situation in Lebanon is a very tragic one. So many people are being killed during the day and during the night, buildings destroyed, children and women running around helplessly."

"I'm not very proud to be member of an indifferent world. Israel cannot and should not interfere in the situation in Lebanon but there are other countries who should." (Reuters)

Not to repeat mistakes: Israeli citizens said on Tuesday they did not want to repeat the mistakes of a costly 1982 war by sending troops to intervene in the current fighting in Lebanon.

"The situation is not good for us and if the Syrians conquer Beirut it will be even worse for us. But I am not at all in favour of getting involved," said Zano Simo, 29, a reserve soldier who said he was following the Lebanon battles closely.

"But I think in the end Israel will get involved there. We can't let them conquer Beirut," added Simo, who was dressed in green Army fatigues.

The Israeli press and television is giving blanket coverage to the fierce fighting in Beirut between Syrian-led forces and the Army of Christian leader Michel Aoun. (Reuters)

Arabs urged to save Lebanon: Jordan urged Arab leaders to act immediately to save Lebanon from the threat of foreign intervention, and said Israel was lying in wait to make territorial gains.

"Jordan believes that matters have reached a threatening stage with signs of foreign intervention to rescue an Arab country that would have been better helped and rescued from its ordeal and suffering by the Arabs."

Amman television quoted an unnamed official source as saying:

"The source warned that Israel is lying in wait to seize the opportunity to make more gains at the expense of Arab rights and territory, and that the continuation of the tragedy will place the entire region under threat of Balkanisation and fragmentation," according to the television report. (Reuters)

Israeli jets buzzed: Israeli warplanes buzzed Palestinian refugee camps near the southern port city on Tuesday, drawing heavy anti-aircraft fire from commandos, police reported.

The Muslim Voice of the Nation radio in Beirut earlier reported the Israeli fighter bombers hit targets near Sidon, south of Beirut.

But a police spokesman in Sidon, said the Israeli jets "did not attack."

The spokesman said two Israeli jet fighters flew at "a very low altitude" over the Ein El Hilweh and Mieh Mieh camps on the city's eastern edge at 12:15 pm (0915 GMT). (AP)

Aoun blamed: Canada's national newspaper, the Globe and Mail says the blame for the ravaging of Beirut, squarely on the shoulders of General Michel Aoun.

The general, says the paper, "picked an unwinnable fight with Syria. Now the desperate gamble appears to have failed. Beirut is a bombed-out shell."

The paper says that what is behind this struggle is not, as General Aoun claims, a fight for the national liberation of Lebanon, but a fight for power within Lebanon between the Christian and Muslim communities. (KUNA)

Syrian troops in Lebanon.

It was clear from a three-hour tour on foot and in an M-113 armoured personnel carrier (APC) that the Syrians and their Lebanese allies had been repulsed as the army claimed.

Souk Al-Gharb is the name of what was once a village — now simply a heap of rubble. It commands the entrance to Lebanon's Christian enclave.

On Military maps it resembles a fist pointing southeast, each knuckle an army position facing ridges held on three sides by Druze, Lebanese communist, Palestinians and Syrians.

Behind and below us lay Aoun's bunker under the ruins of Baabda presidential palace.

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Souk Al Gharb is now a heap of rubble

SOUK Al Gharb, Lebanon, Aug 15, (Reuters): Sniper bullets cracked overhead, some ricocheting like angry wasps off the half-buried tunnels and bunkers of this mountain battlefield.

Best double, journalists staggered and half-ran today through a network of trenches filled with the debris of hand-to-hand fighting at Qal'at Al-Hosnan, the southernmost position held by Lebanon's Christian-led army.

"It's dangerous here — keep moving," one soldier shouted as high-velocity rounds buzzed around us.

Druze fighters of the Syrian-backed Progressive Socialist Party were still entrenched just 15 metres (yards) away.

It was like crawling through a partially-collapsed minefield, ankle deep in dirt and spent cartridge cases.

"This is where they came through on Sunday," said an officer from a Lebanese Army Ranger Battalion. "They tossed grenades at us and killed two soldiers."

"It's a position that's easy to take and very difficult to keep," he said, adding that in Sunday's battle the Druze held the outpost for 15 minutes before they were pushed back.

The fighting was the first ground combat since Christian army commander Michel Aoun launched his "liberation war," against 33,000

Syrian troops in Lebanon.

It was clear from a three-hour tour on foot and in an M-113 armoured personnel carrier (APC) that the Syrians and their Lebanese allies had been repulsed as the army claimed.

Souk Al-Gharb is the name of what was once a village — now simply a heap of rubble. It commands the entrance to Lebanon's Christian enclave.

On Military maps it resembles a fist pointing southeast, each knuckle an army position facing ridges held on three sides by Druze, Lebanese communist, Palestinians and Syrians.

Behind and below us lay Aoun's bunker under the ruins of Baabda presidential palace.

To our right, about two miles (four km) away was the airport and Beirut's Shiite mosque suburbs.

To our left was Aley, a Druze mountain stronghold.

An army major said Sunday's assault was prepared with a curtain of artillery fire lasting three days and comprising about 15,000 shells, mortar bombs and rockets.

He said the barrage came from about 300 mainly Syrian "tubes" the military term for artillery barrels.

At 6 am (0300 GMT) the first infantry wave attacked the eastern side of the "fist" at the villages of Ain Remmaneh and Ain Sayde.

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Debt issue on agenda of Cairo visit

Amir's visit will push development: Meguid

CAIRO, Aug. 15. (KUNA): Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr Esmat Abdel Meguid has asserted the importance of HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah's visit to Egypt in the period August 28-30.

Meguid, in an interview with KUNA here, said "we are greatly pleased with the visit in view of the strong relations between HH and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that dates back to 1983 when they met at the Non Aligned Movement's summit in New Delhi."

The visit is particularly important because it is the first by Sheikh Jaber to Cairo since he became Amir of Kuwait in 1978, which will give him the opportunity to get acquainted with developments in Egypt in the past period and will give a push to bilateral political, economic and investment relations.

Dr Meguid pointed out that HH the Amir currently presides over the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and President Mubarak heads the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) which will double the importance of their discussions.

Meguid said that the Kuwaiti-Egyptian summit talks will focus, in addition to bilateral relations, on the world debt problem along with issues of importance to Arab, Islamic and African people.

He said that President Mubarak had adopted the issue before and after assuming chairmanship of the OAU and launched an initiative along with leaders of Senegal, Venezuela and India at the Paris celebrations of the bicentenary anniversary of the French Revolution proposing a North-South summit on the problem.

The minister recalled that Sheikh Jaber had voiced a "unique initiative" at the General Assembly's 43rd session last year to solve the problem and explained that it was unique since Kuwait was a creditor

nation and had proposed writing off debts of the poorer countries.

Asked on the Egyptian-Israeli relations in the light of the escalating Israeli repressive measures in the occupied Arab lands, Meguid said that such practices obstruct the Mideast peace process.

He called on Israel to heed the Geneva agreements and put an end to such measures and also appealed to various world countries to intervene and stop Israel's inhuman practices against Palestinians.

Solution

He renewed his country's backing to the Palestinian intifada, hoping that it would lead to the required political solution.

The Egyptian minister underlined that the intifada, similar to the Arab-Israeli October war of 1973 had started deep-rooted changes in the region.

Israel should negotiate peace on basis of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, he said, adding that Cairo considers the international conference with participation of all parties concerned including PLO and Israel the suitable platform to find such a settlement.

Asked on Syrian-Egyptian relations, he said that differences do exist between them but that should not entail hostility.

Recalling meetings between President Mubarak and his Syrian counterpart Hafez Assad at the Casablanca Arab summit and the Islamic summit in Kuwait, Meguid hoped that solving those differences would take place soon for their interest and that of the Arab nation's causes.

The admission of other countries into the four-member Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) is left to leaders of those countries to decide, the Egyptian official said.

The ACC which was formed last February, groups Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Arab Yemen.



A fried chicken meal ... consumers complain of the high price.

Reduce cost of fast food, say consumers

Increase nutritional value

FAST food franchise is starting to accelerate its activities at co-operative societies, working areas and other places in order to present the best of services within the shortest time-span.

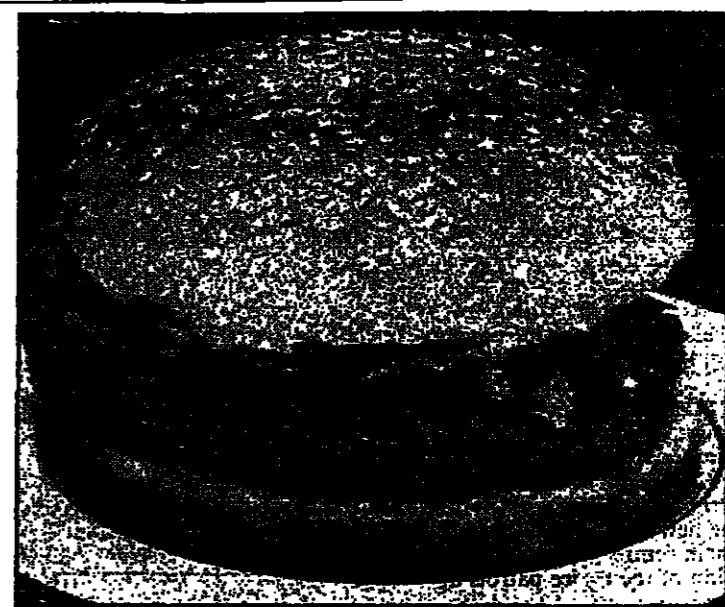
Most customers have expressed that meat used in snacks presented at fast food franchises is not fresh nor lean enough and that prices they pay don't match their nutritional value. Another section of customers called upon co-operative societies to invest in these branches directly in order to protect consumers health.

Meanwhile, fast food franchise companies stressed that snacks are nutritious for humans because they contain amino acids and proteins. They added that such snacks will never generate obesity if not eaten in large quantities. They pointed out that shops rents, competition, food stuff costs, and other costs determine the price of a meal. They indicated that competition among fast food franchises is limited to quality and then price.

On the other hand, some co-operative societies believe that managing such fast food restaurants requires expertise and special qualifications. Hygiene is an area of vital concern.

A number of customers at fast food franchises were interviewed to obtain their opinions. Yousif Al Awadi described food sold at fast food franchises as light, not containing any nutritional value, heavy in fat and expensive. He added that he wished that the meat used is fresh and bereft of fat pointing out that a snack may satisfy a person's hunger but, will not give him full nutritional value. He indicated that a number of studies conducted in Europe showed that consuming snacks containing meat mixed with scraps lead to malignant diseases. He said that official authorities in Europe advise people of the contents of fast meals. Replacement services mostly emphasise on conducting alterations on the nature of the meal itself to be more adequate to human bodies.

Tareq Al Awadhi agreed with what Yousif said with respect to meat used in fast foods franchises as being not pure and containing many scraps. He called upon officials to stop fast food franchise operating at co-operative societies locations and to replace them with fast meal restaurants



Fast and friendly ... but is it nutritious?

providing nutritious meals to the public. He indicated that advertisements placed in favour of these fast food franchises have played an effective role in attracting youth to them. They even exist at schools and market areas now, he added.

He pointed out that even though preparing such convenient meals looks at home, it is not as simple as it seems. Health authorities should warn of their shortcomings, particularly that more demand on such meals is witnessed in Kuwait while it is decreasing abroad. He stressed that youth should be aware of these detrimental factors.

Head of the Follow up and Supervision Section at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Bader Al Khalifa said that he hoped that all meat used in fast food is fresh and not frozen. He indicated that despite the fact that it is easy to prepare a snack, it is hard to chew because it contains stale meat which has lost its nutritious elements. He indicated that fast foods prices are not reasonable if compared to their nutritious value. He pointed out that he has visited a number of fast foods franchises abroad and found out that in Kuwait the type of meat used is monitored — unlike abroad.

He urged authorities managing these franchises to exert further censorship on the quality and cleanliness of foods, in order to avoid illegal practices.

Saad Murad Al Bloushi who was taking his family to dinner at Pizza restaurant located at Daiya Co-operative society suggested that the society administration should directly control the branch management. He pointed out that prices are expensive and meat used is not fresh. He therefore, called upon the society to reduce prices.

Khaled Abdullah, an employee at the Ministry of Interior said that food sold at

Arab fast foods restaurants like "Shawarma" has more meat than hamburgers sold at fast food franchises. He wondered why prices are very high despite the fact that meat used in snacks are not fresh and labourers salaries are low. He called for censorship on these franchises.

Adel Mohamed believes that fast food franchises should be removed from co-operative society locations. He pointed out that he prefers eating at an Arab restaurant than going to eat hamburger. Comparing the price of fast foods in Kuwait and the US, he indicated that a full meal containing hamburger, chips and a drink cost \$2.50 in the United States, while it costs KD1 here.

Director of the quality department at Al Homaizi Company for food stuffs, Dr Bob Hartman said that meals presented to consumers at fast foods franchises are not light but, fast because it is ready to eat in 3 minutes at the maximum. He pointed out that meat used in meals provided by some franchises are pure 100 per cent beef and only 18-20 per cent of fat is mixed to ensure good taste and a tender consistency.

Hartman stressed that snacks presented at franchises are nutritious and contain elements like amino acids and proteins which help human growth. In addition to these, a sandwich contains bread, and salads. He indicated that sales at fast food franchises are highest during the evening hours, meanwhile noon time sees more sales in Europe and America.

He pointed out that more than 395 fast food franchises have been opened during the past two years. He added that meat is imported from outside Kuwait because beef exists in bigger quantities there and is slaughtered under the provision of the company. Slaughtering operations are conducted with the co-operation of Islamic associations to ensure Islamic slaughtering.

Lab activities

Motivate Kuwaitis call by technician

THE chief lab technician at the Jahra Hospital Niman Abdul Rahman Al Turki has called for an increase in motivation incentives which will encourage Kuwaiti graduates to join the field of lab activities, which he described as no less important than the rest of medical specialisations. He revealed to a local daily that the total number of Kuwaiti staff operating within this field did not exceed 10 per cent, and that the hospital lab carried out 1.5 million analyses on a regular annual basis.

He said that the lab comprised four divisions, which undertook analytical tests identifying blood groups, disease-causing agents including pathological and bacterial factors, determining viral reaction to medications, and ascertaining the percentages of blood components and chemicals in a patient's blood sample.

All lab staff are university or institute graduates which requires re-evaluating the existing system of "job-titles" to reflect the degree of specialisation held by individual staff members, the official said.

He stressed the need to encourage Kuwaiti graduates to join the lab field activities, pointing out that a total of 29 Kuwaiti graduates finished their study at the Faculty of Paramedics and Nursing last year, of whom 10 were women.

The percentage of errors in lab analyses is negligible and added that the lab technicians extended all possible assistance to the doctor in order to diagnose the medical condition of the patient, Turki said.

Kuwait needs commerce graduates

On-the-job training recommended

THE Faculty of Commerce, Economy and Political Science of Kuwait University has completed a study related to the needs of public and private sectors in relation to the utilisation of the expertise for graduates of the faculty. The study was prepared by Dr Mohammed Al Basioni and Dr Ikhlas Abdulla from the faculty and supervised by the former dean of the faculty Dr Mudhi Al Humoud and the assistant dean for academic affairs.

The study aims at studying the needs of public and private sectors for graduates of the faculty in different majors and based on the findings of the study recommend guidelines to tailor the curriculum according to these requirements.

The study pointed out that most senior officials at the public sector (64.4 per cent) have called for focussing attention on graduates in four majors: administrative sciences, economy, accounting and finance. About 78.8 per cent of government officials also called for increasing

the numbers of graduates in the disciplines of accounting, finance, personnel management, industrial administration, statistics and insurance. The officials of 53 government and private departments and establishments said they needed a total of 4167 graduates 3165 for government sector and 1002 for private sector. The required majors of these graduates are: accounting, administrative sciences, economy, finance, personnel management, marketing, statistics, industrial administration and insurance. The study underscored the big demand for graduates of the administrative sciences. The private sector needs graduates in the areas of finance and marketing more than the government sector, the study said.

Language

According to the study, officials at the government sector noted that graduates of the Faculty of Commerce of Kuwait

University are not fully acquainted with the English language, and writing reports beside the ability to undertake research. The officials at the private companies see several points of weakness in these graduates which are the weakness in having the required technical information, applying scientific theories, ability to use computers and calculators, writing reports, researching, taking decisions and weakness in English language. The study noticed that the private sector applied stricter criteria in evaluating graduates of the faculty than the government.

The study added that a big per cent of government officials graduated from Kuwait University which prompts them to lean towards easier evaluation of graduates of the faculty. The study indicated that officials believe graduates of Kuwait University have better standards than graduates of other Arab universities because of the high academic standards of graduates

of Kuwait University and because they know more about the local government. But they added that these graduates are of a lower standard than graduates of American universities because of the high American academic standards and their fluency in English. The officials at the government sector prefer to offer programmes of higher studies to get a diploma at the Faculty of Commerce while the private sector prefers to offer master programmes. They prefer to offer higher studies programme in administration, economy, statistics and then in computer sciences. A total of 30 of the 53 surveyed departments and establishments in public and private sectors are ready to nominate 354 employees to join the higher studies programmes of the faculty including 22 government establishments and departments that will nominate 319 employees. But 23 departments and establishments did not want to nominate employees for these programmes.

Saudi water plant nears completion

JEDDAH, Aug. 15. (OPECNA): A giant Saudi Arabian integrated sewage and drinking water plant costing over \$500 million is nearing completion at Taif, according to the Director General of the Western Province's Water and Sewage Department, Fahd Al Sulaiman.

He said the aim of the scheme, the first of its kind in the Middle East, was to meet the city's requirements for drinking water and to provide a network for the discharge of flood and sewage water.

The project was being built in three stages, the first of which in the western part of the city had been completed at the cost of \$160.21 million.

About 70 per cent of work on the \$173.56 million second phase was also complete, while the third stage, costing some \$172.23 million and involving the construction of a sewage treatment plant with daily capacity of 76,000 cu metres, had also been finished.



Indian flag-hoisting

A flag-hoisting ceremony was held at the Indian embassy premises yesterday on the occasion of the Independence Day of India. Charge d'Affaires R.S. Mukhija hoisted the flag. A large number of Indians and school children attended the ceremony.

Boy killed by mates over pigeon

DOHA area was the scene of a murder last Sunday which claimed the life of a Kuwaiti youth identified as Ahmad F. 16 years of age who was attending the first secondary stage. Death resulted from stabs inflicted by a sharp instrument. A local daily reported that investigations revealed that two suspects identified as Adel A. 16 years and Basel F. 13 years — both Kuwaitis have been apprehended as suspects in the murder.

According to the source, the two accused visited Ahmad at his house and that a dispute over a pigeon owned by Basel caused a fight which led up to the victim being fatally stabbed in the chest. The source said that Adel held the victim while Basel stabbed him in the chest with a sharp instrument.

Life term sentence for Indian

THE Criminal Court headed by Judge Mohammed Samir Murad sentenced an Indian national to life in prison on charges arising from the murder of his Iraqi colleague. The accused was further sentenced to a further four years for having homosexual relations with the victim during their work periods on a farm. The reason for the murder is given as personal jealousy.

The court also sentenced two brothers to ten years rigorous imprisonment on shooting their sister on an issue of honour. The incident took place at Umm Al Himan. The court was told that the victim was thrice married and thrice divorced and at the time of the murder was married to a fourth man.

A thief who stole two ladies hand-bags at Salmiya shopping area has been sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour by the Court of Misdemeanours.

The court was told that the man was arrested by security personnel at Salmiya on complaints filed by the two ladies. Initially, the culprit denied the charge, but security men successfully recovered the two bags along with stolen jewellery.

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Second university study on: Shamlan

Summer Club activities to be evaluated

DUE to ever-increasing demand for seats by students seeking to join Kuwait University, the Ministry of Higher Education is studying the feasibility of establishing another university.

Elaborating on this issue, Dr. Ali Al-Shamlan, Minister of Higher Education said that the establishment of a private university in Kuwait has as yet not been studied by an authority. However, he added, that some different committees at the ministry are presently studying some issues relating to overall aspects of building a new university. From the ministry's point of view, the establishment of a university will depend on the urgent and serious needs of the country and studies will be conducted to determine these parameters, the official said. Shamlan described the establishment of the Ministry of Higher

Education in Kuwait as a new launch and added that the ministry will be developing the general policies that will form the basis of the charter of this ministry. Basically, he said that the ministry's objectives are to provide high-calibre university education and applied education as well as support scientific research in those disciplines which would positively contribute to the social and economic development plans of the country.

Draft law
The ministry is concentrating its efforts to produce a national workforce that will meet the needs of the local market for specialists and technicians in all fields of co-operation with the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Higher Education has formed a committee empowered to draw up a law which will effectively govern the workings of the

ministry. The committee has completed its mission and copies of the draft law have been sent to the university and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. These bodies will study the contents of the draft law and submit their recommendations, Shamlan said.

Scholarships

The official called on the different authorities of the state to provide the Ministry of Higher Education with their specific needs of graduates and the required majors to enable the ministry to take these needs into consideration in formulating appropriate admission policies at the university and the authority. He added that there is every possibility to increase the number of students in those scientific majors needed by the

state by offering different scientific majors at the science faculties of the university.

He revealed that scholarships and cultural relations committee of the ministry is seeking to prepare a draft charter to organise guidelines related to the distribution of scholarships. The committee will also work to unify the cultural relations and scholarships offices at the university and the authority and this draft charter is expected to be completed very soon. The ministry is now developing programmes and curriculum of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training in order to meet the requirements of the labour market.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Higher Education Anwar Al-Nouri has said that the ministry has future plans to develop activities of the Summer Clubs.

Modern network for police

By Nasser Al-Tameem

THE Ministry of the Interior has approved a special budget aimed at modernising its communication network to include very advanced equipment. The manual equipment that will be used by policemen in the new network will include secret codes and numbers that can be immediately changed if lost or stolen. Computers will efficiently be introduced in the new network and it will be possible to determine exactly the location of police patrol in any part of Kuwait.

The new network will enable the main centre to pinpoint the position of the police patrols at any given time. There will be a direct contact between police patrols and computer screens.



Nasser receives EPC representatives

Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al-Ahmed received yesterday at his office members of the Environment Protection Society who thanked him for his support. The delegation consisted of Sheikh Fahd Al-Ahmed, Dr Badriya Al-Awadi, Dr Rashid Al-Hamad and Hamad Shuaib.

Stress main cause

Heart disease claiming young: Ghazala

HEART attacks, until recent times, which afflicted only the elderly, are now claiming an increasing number of young people, head of the Cultural Committee at Kuwait Medical Society Dr Hassan Abu Ghazala said.

Presently, heart attacks are now common among persons between 30-40 years old. A few years ago, it was only common

among persons between the age group of 50-60 years of age. The official attributed the incidence of heart attacks increasing among the younger generation to increased pressures caused by the demands of the present life-styles and the heightened pace of modern living.

He added that an increase in personal problems caused by society lead to disease like high

blood pressure, stomach ulcer, diabetes and heart attacks. Persons who suffer from these disorders and pressures have poor immune systems which are adversely affected by the stress syndrome.

People sometimes neglect attending to symptoms of high blood pressure, diabetes and nagging chest pains and do not

realise that these constitute very dangerous forms of complications such as heart attacks, blindness, paralysis and brain blood clots. The official stressed on the importance of undertaking periodical medical check-ups in order to discover any silent diseases (such as blood pressure and diabetes) and to obtain suitable treatment when diagnosed as being active.

From the courts

Suspended sentence option

KUWAIT Assize Court sentenced a man to two years imprisonment with hard labour, but gave the accused the option of suspending the sentence on payment of KD100.

The court was told that the accused and a colleague working for the same construction company at a project site were involved in a verbal dispute. The victim had ordered the accused to unload a gravel load at a specific location at the project site. The order somehow infuriated the accused who alighted from the truck and assaulted the victim with his fists by hitting him several times on the face and chest.

Blacklisted videos

KUWAIT Assize Court acquitted two video shop owners who were accused of dealing with a blacklisted American company producing recorded songs.

Investigations revealed that the records found on the premises of the two accused were reproduced by German companies from original records of the blacklisted company. However, the court relied on the evidence of the Ministry of Commerce Boycott Office which said the German firm was not blacklisted.

Hashish smugglers

AIRPORT customs officials arrested a Pakistani national identified as Ihsanullah for smuggling five kilos of hashish.

The accused who was working for a private company in the Fahheel area arrived yesterday from Peshawar. Suspicions of customs officials led to a thorough search of the accused's belonging and person and the contraband was discovered.

The accused and the contraband have been referred to investigative authorities.

Kuwait buys jet fighter

(Continued from Page 1)

the aircraft are being built," said Downey.

"I don't think you can arrive at the unit cost by dividing the value of the contract by the number of aircraft on order, because of the spares, equipment and training included in the programme," he added.

He said McDonnell Douglas normally provides training material but training for Kuwaiti pilots and maintenance crews will be handled by the US Navy.

The Arab Times learnt that Kuwait plans to send a maximum of 300 pilots for F18 training in the US. Technicians will be trained in Kuwait. The Ministry of Defence has begun preparations for the F18 programme with tenders for the aircraft hand-

gover to be released shortly. Large consignments of equipment, including simulators, will be imported while a team of American experts will conduct courses in Kuwait for engineers who will instruct technicians.

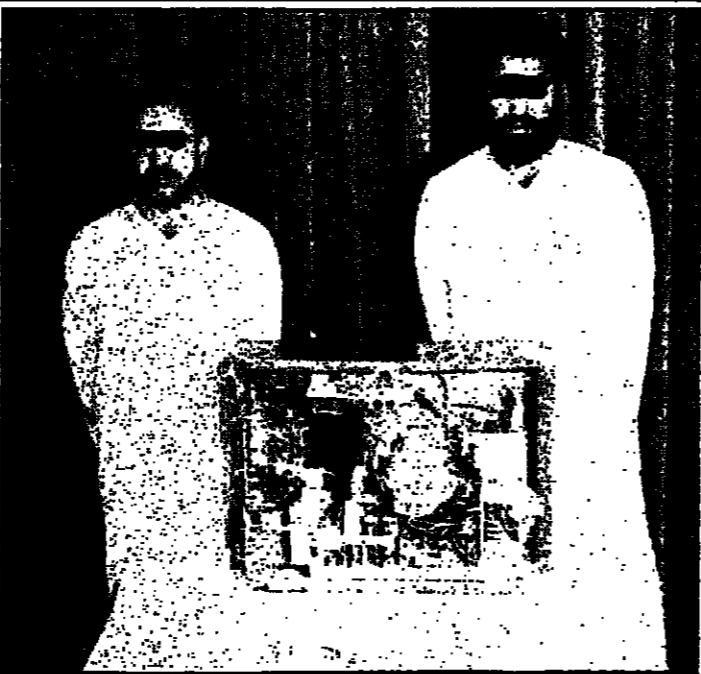
The fighter bombers will be fitted with air-to-ground Maverick missiles.

Downey said the F/A-18D is a two-seat plane primarily made as a pilot trainer while the C model is a single seat combat plane. He said the jet's range depended upon what is loaded on it but experts said that F18 has a combat radius of more than 500 nautical miles. It travels at a maximum speed of mach 1.7 and can fly at a height of more than 50,000 feet. It is powered by GE-400 engines.

Jeddah Islamic Port

JEDDAH, Aug 14, (KUNA): A total of 917,086 metric tons of goods has been handled by Jeddah Islamic Port during the month of July, Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported today.

The total passengers arriving and leaving through the port during the same month reached 53,328 using 40 passenger vessels, the port Acting Director-General Moustapha Hariri said.



Heroin smugglers nabbed

In a diligent manoeuvre, security personnel of the Criminal Investigation Department successfully apprehended two Pakistanis for smuggling and trading in narcotics. The two accused have been identified as Nawab K. and Akhtar H. and were arrested for possession of 2.3 kilos of heroin valued by the police at KD185,000. Investigations are still being conducted to unearth the ramifications of what police believe to be a sizeable smuggling operation.

Australian and Saudi ministers discuss sheep ban

DUBAI, Aug 15, (Reuters): Ministers from Saudi Arabia and Australia are discussing a Saudi ban on some shipments of Australian sheep on the grounds they were diseased, officials said today.

Saudi health authorities have turned away 226,000 Australian sheep in the past two months, saying they carried blue tongue and sheep pox.

Australia's Primary Industry Minister John Kerin said both diseases were unknown in his country's commercial flocks. He said all

the rejected sheep were resold to other Gulf states which found them disease-free.

"We want to find out if there are any other reasons why our sheep are being turned away," a government source in Canberra said.

Industry sources in the region said some sheep did have pink eye, usually caused by stress on long journeys.

The Saudis have banned diseased sheep from some non-Western exporters such as Somalia and the move may have been to show

that they are being even-handed, the sources said.

Livestock officials and veterinarians estimate that bad shipment conditions and brutal handling at docks and slaughterhouses kill at least four per cent of seven million Australian sheep sold each year to the region, a loss of \$18 million.

"People have seen sheep kicked, punched, thrown around and exposed all day in the burning heat of the summer," said one industry source.

Crisis in Lebanon may lead to inter-Arab war: Khalifa

Accelerate process of tackling problems

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah

THE Arab world is indeed at very important crossroads. For analysts and observers, it is a matter of conjecture and analysis. Observers, with all the information they possess will still remain short of drawing the right picture of events.

This scenario, prompted me to meet the people at the helm of affairs and what follows is the result of an interview with HH the Crown Prince of Bahrain, Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa. The wide-ranging interview dealt with the burning issue of Lebanon, the present affairs in the Gulf and the outlook for the future.

The present course of events in Lebanon are very regrettable. The Crown Prince of Bahrain Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa said an added: "Lebanon is truly a horrifying sight" because it depicts vividly the catastrophes of a full-fledged inter-Arab war with the usage of modern destructive armaments and no-holds barred."

The dignitary voiced his concern that more parties could get embroiled in the on-going conflict. This fear stems from the real possibility that any one of the present sides could seek assistance from other Arab forces. Should this be the course of events, the Arab-Arab fight will expand and more Arab sides will be involved, Khalifa said an added that his fears are further compounded with the unfortunate possibility that we could find ourselves involved in a war not unlike the Iran-Iraq war.

Elucidating, Khalifa said that he believes there is real concern that a similar war like the Gulf war may erupt in Lebanon in the future. "I believe that I am not alone in expressing this point of view. Many other voices echo my fears," Khalifa added.

The Crown Prince went on to say that several dignitaries and men of letters have been urging the three-man Arab committee to resume its efforts. With reason and wisdom prevailing, it is possible to overcome this misery which is hurting the very core of Arabs and non-Arabs alike. We urgently desire that the three-man Arab committee resumes its efforts as the present situation in Lebanon is not pleasing to any one.

Asked in the event the committee resumed its efforts and encountered the same obstacles underlined in its previous statement, a call to convene an emergency Arab summit should be undertaken, the Crown Prince replied. The tripartite committee was offered six months by the Casablanca Summit to complete its mission and submit its report to an Arab conference to be convened especially for this purpose. However, if there should be a need to convene an emergency summit before the lapse of the six-month deadline, through unanimous Arab agreement, we are quite ready to attend the summit and we are equally willing to participate in any Arab get-together at any level or any venue.

Continuing, Khalifa said: "Blood flows profusely in Lebanon—the war is just a crazy war and the massacre this time is being perpetrated by Arab hands. It is imperative that we rush to deal with the situation bravely and on a basis of urgency."

Gulf peace

On the issue of whether the Iran-Iraq war has in effect ended or it is a state of transient peace that could soon give way to war again, the Crown Prince said that peace could prevail with no preliminary agreements.

However, war could flare despite peace agreement. The issue here is one of justification. Peace has



HH Sheikh Hamad Bin Issa Al-Khalifa, heir apparent and Minister of Defence.

its own justifications and so has war—the stronger will prevail. Every one desires peace, yet everyone continues to arm himself in a mad frenzy. For peace to prevail, he maintained, direct contacts between the warring parties is essential. This is the situation between Iraq and Iran. However, the situation in Lebanon threatens the aforementioned assumption. Hence, we cannot help wondering what the outcome would be if Iraq intervened directly in the war.

Undoubtedly, there will be a fierce Syrian-Iraqi confrontation and the strong Iranian presence in Lebanon would not keep Iran out of the picture. The question here is: Has the Gulf war been geographically relocated. Hence, we say that the war in Lebanon must come to an end. Arabs must play their national duty to see an end to this war and ensure that the current inter-Arab war in Lebanon does not serve as a link to another war.

Reflecting on peace conditions prevailing in the Gulf region in relation to improving co-operation among the GCC states, Sheikh Khalifa said that the nature of the GCC states, its peoples and economies, is almost similar and unique. All these characteristics and traditions impose themselves for co-operation among the GCC states. However, this region has inherited some standing problems like border issues.

He explained that Bahrain has one problem with Qatar, but other countries have more than one problem. However, all these problems are solved through mediation in a friendly atmosphere. Gulf countries involved in such border issues should continue improving their ties and co-operation, the official recommended.

These issues should be kept on the shelf as the upcoming generation living among strong ties will facilitate finding acceptable solutions. Alternatively, we sit as Gulf states with a set of principles and agree to solve all problems collectively. The principles upon which solutions should be based, must decide whether the solutions should be made through mediations or through some international reference. The principles should include several options upon which the solutions should be decided. The solutions should be free of any reflections that could leave some feelings in the future that there is a loser or a winner.

The Crown Prince said that we should accelerate the process of tackling all problems facing the entire Gulf region. We are six members in the GCC states and any agreement, economic or

social, arrived at between two or three members should be implemented at an appropriate and opportune time.

Pre-war situation in Lebanon did see the possibility of partition voiced by some forces. This was initiated 20 years ago. This indicates that there are forces that see their interests in dividing Lebanon. These forces see that its political options should lead to differences, fragmentation and disunity.

The stability of the Gulf countries with societies enjoying firm national unity, is not pleasing to some forces. A division will not materialise if we strongly organise our interests and firmly link them with harmony in our political thinking.

Co-operation among our states will lead us to establish the Gulf common market. This concept has become a necessity to keep the region aloof from being affected by the policies of disunity and fragmentation. Our enemies plans are long-term, but can be prevented by strengthening our grouping to be based on principles for solving disputes. To subvert their plans, we have to strengthen co-operation among our states by linking the interests of our people through networks that indicate that all Gulf countries are for the Gulf citizens. There should be no feeling of regionalism as Bahrainis, or Saudis or Kuwaitis. The feeling that one is a citizen wherever he goes to any of the GCC states, must be strengthened.

On the shape of the Gulf Common Market, Sheikh Khalifa said that Bahrain has implemented most of the GCC co-operative laws. He added that even during the days of the late Sheikh Issa Bin Ali, he allowed Saudis and other brothers in the Gulf the right of ownership in Bahrain. When the British mandate authorities queried, he replied by stressing that "We are the people of one region." We in Bahrain are ahead of others in some laws.

We in Bahrain have been ahead of others with our legislature, whether through allowing citizens in the region the right to ownership, such as shares and banks, or any such facilities. Regionally, Bahrain could benefit from the Gulf Common Market (GCM) if important industries could be set up along with light ones which could meet the needs of the local markets or the international markets. Benefits could also accrue with the establishment of institutes, and studies centres in our country.

The Gulf countries are rich countries, and the economy in the region is equally rich and

needs only interlinkage and integration for collective co-operation. These factors currently outline the makings of a successful Gulf Common Market.

On the recent visit by HH the Amir to the Saudi Kingdom following the bombing incidents during the haj season the Crown Prince said that the visit was made in his capacity as chairman of the current GCC session. It is our belief that issues in the region must be met with a unified Gulf stand. The purpose of the visit was to follow up co-ordination with the Saudi monarch on future work related issues and to find out whether they wish to call for an emergency Gulf summit or not. He was of the opinion that a GCC meeting at the level of foreign ministers would suffice at the time.

Our main stress is laid on the fact that the GCC member states stood together in the face of any aggression on any one country. The Amir was ready to call for an emergency Gulf summit, if the Saudis wished so, but the situation there was already under control and needed no further action, Khalifa said.

This interlinkage provides the basis for a prosperous and solid state of security. We, as leaders, are not supposed to protect our houses and families only, but to protect our peoples. This would only be accessible through the tying of our mutual interests, the joint nourishing of our national aspirations and the deep entrenchment of roots of a durable and constantly-maintained state of security. The resultant prosperity would nurse a sense of love among the leaderships and the people in the region. This is much better and more fruitful than enhancing our army personnel or intensifying our intelligence forces.

Security
Commenting on the explosions that occurred in Makkah during the pilgrimage season, Sheikh Khalifa said that it was not an aggression on the kingdom alone. It represents an aggression on Islam, Muslims and all Islamic countries. If this criminal act was intended at harming Saudi Arabia alone, why did not occur in Riyadh or Jeddah and why was it perpetrated in Makkah during the pilgrimage the dignitary queried?

This clearly indicates that the aim of the criminals was designed as an attack on Islam and the Islamic countries and after that on Saudi Arabia which implemented the decision to reduce the number of pilgrims. The aggression on Makkah has but one interpretation—an attack on Islam and Islamic countries and not aimed at harming Saudi Arabia.

On the security situation in the Gulf after the end of the Iraq-Iran war, the Crown Prince said that the security situation has abated. However, the level of security at the international level for maintaining the overall security of the entire region should be achieved through a guided and unified military and security co-operation strategy. The interlinkage of our people is the true power to security, he added.

We should speed up the march of the GCC. Any dispute between any two members of the GCC should be viewed as a dispute for the rest of the members and affects the other members.

Our countries are not suffering from security problems like they were suffering during the Iraq-Iran war. We are no more witnessing painful incidents like the ones that took place in Kuwait and Bahrain. The atmosphere has changed and our main issue now is linking our people. This linking alone will lead to prosperity and will strengthen the conditions for peace and stability.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE golden age only comes to men when they have forgotten gold — G.K. Chesterton, English writer (1874-1936).

Resignation may mark policy shift

Breakthrough likely

IT is widely hoped that South African President P.W. Botha's resignation and F.W. de Klerk's elevation could mark a positive turn in Pretoria's relations with neighbouring black states, but some analysts fear a return to old-style apartheid.

Botha announced his resignation on Monday. De Klerk was to be sworn in as acting president on Tuesday and take over permanently in September, when parliamentary elections are to be held.

The US State Department had no official comment on the move, calling it a matter of internal politics.

But one State Department official told Reuters that the root of a feud between the two men — De Klerk's planned visit to Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda in late August — could signal a change in South African racial policy.

A first sign would be a decision by De Klerk to go through with the meeting with Kaunda, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "That would be a breakthrough on both sides and a helpful step," the official said on Monday.

The Zambian leader is the chief African patron of the banned African National Congress, the guerrilla movement fighting to end white rule in South Africa.

If De Klerk makes the trip, it would be one of the first times a South African leader has met a leader of the front line states coalition grouping southern African leaders.

However, Sylvia Gon, assistant director of the Washington-based South Africa Foundation, said she feared Botha's resignation could bring attempts to return to more stringent apartheid measures.

"The implications may be quite serious," Gon told Reuters in an interview. "It would seem to the rank-and-file voters that the National Party (to which Botha and De Klerk belong) is in disarray. That would of course lead to strengthening the far-right Conservative Party."

"It would mean a return to old-style apartheid, a genuine attempt to turn back the clock, a much more segregated society than it has become in past years," Gon said.

Botha had set out to ease apartheid but then quelled black revolt with draconian force.

Gon, who said her organisation was devoted to keeping open the lines of communication between the United States and South Africa and was dedicated to a non-racial democracy in South Africa, gave Botha credit for some reforms.

"For all his faults, Botha was the only National Party leader who really started unlocking the logjam of apartheid," she said. "I think there have been very meaningful changes under Botha."

Pauline Baker of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace said Botha's resignation was too fresh for any conclusions to be drawn yet.

"I think it's an oversimplification to say this (resignation) is going to bring about the beginning of the end of apartheid," Baker said in a telephone interview.

Baker said it was unclear what impact the step would have on September 6 parliamentary elections.

"The optimistic scenario would be that this will force a realignment," she said, but the shakeup could also pave the way for an outright victory for the right in Parliament.

"Maybe what this shakeup might do is force them to do what they need to do internally" rather than with international pressure, Baker said. (Reuters Washington)

PRESS REVIEW

A LEADING Egyptian paper editorially called on the Arab League to ask the United Nations and the Security Council to use their influence to stop the bloody fighting in Lebanon as long as the Arab League is unable to do so.

Daily *Al Akhbar* expressed regret that the Arab leaders could not take immediate action on holding an emergency Arab summit conference on the situation in Lebanon before it is too late and were not able to take a firm decision to oust all the foreign parties from the Lebanese territories.

The paper stressed that the foreign interference is the main reason for the plight of Lebanon. (KUNA)

THE United States is not properly employing the positive opportunities provided by the Palestinian uprising and the PLO to advance peace in the region, a Kuwaiti daily said.

In a front page editorial, *Al Rai Al Aam* said the low-level of the current American-Palestinian dialogue, which the US thinks is a great accomplishment, is not enough and will change nothing because Washington will not let such contacts yield positive and effective outcome in the road to rapprochement between the two sides.

It added that such rapprochement is forbidden because it contradicts the US-Israeli partnership and that "clearly embodied when the State Department deplored the recent Fatah movement's announcement concerning the Palestinian cause."

At the same time, the US administration, which has been for long monitoring and counting any Palestinian breath, overlooks the stark Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights in the occupied territories, the daily concluded. (KUNA)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1570 — John Sigismund Zapolya of Transylvania signs secret treaty with Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian II at Speyer to achieve independence from Sultan of Turkey, but must renounce control over much of Hungary.

1717 — Army under Savoy's Prince Eugene defeats Turks at Belgrade, which he occupies.

1827 — Sultan of Turkey rejects note of Russia, France and Britain demanding truce in war with Greece.

1896 — British protectorate in Ashanti, West Africa, is proclaimed.

1953 — Attempted Royalist coup begins in Persia.

1956 — First London conference to discuss Suez Canal is boycotted by Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

1960 — Britain grants independence to crown colony of Cyprus, with Archbishop Makarios as president.

1962 — Agreement is signed in London for Aden to enter federation of South Arabia. Algeria is admitted to Arab League. Mont Blanc tunnel in Alps is completed as French and Italian workers meet under Western Europe's highest peak.

1964 — Major General Nguyen Kahn takes over presidency of South Vietnam, ousting Major General Duong van Minh.

1969 — Britain completes troop movement into Northern Ireland to help quell fighting between Roman Catholics and Protestants.

1972 — Moroccan King Hassan II escapes assassination attempt by Moroccan Air Force jets over Rabat.

1974 — Turkish invaders of Cyprus complete division of Island into two areas and declare ceasefire.

1986 — Protesters attack government buildings, burn vehicles and clash with authorities in Pakistan, and 12 people are wounded during scattered riots.

1987 — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa says his outlawed labour movement is still alive and active.

1988 — Burmese authorities release 51 people arrested during previous week's anti-government demonstrations in Rangoon.

Pakistan a year after Zia's death

Bitter-sweet democracy

ONE year after President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq died in a plane crash that ended more than a decade of authoritarian rule, Pakistan is eating the fruits of democracy, both bitter and sweet.

There are hints of a cultural renaissance. Music, drama and ethnic dance are slowly returning to the airwaves following years of patriotic and religious programming.

Pakistan and its archrival, India, have started talking again. Newspapers print more of what they want. Urban women are beginning to speak up for equal rights. Government men may be seen in shirts and ties — a year ago, it was obligatory to wear *shalwar kameez*, the pajama-like native garb.

This Muslim nation enjoys newfound political freedom, but ethnic and religious tensions still simmer, and a bitter war in neighbouring Afghanistan occasionally continues to spill over the frontier.

Meanwhile, Zia's march toward an Islamic system of justice has halted in mid-step, to the anger of the religious right.

All this is taking place under the leadership of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, the daughter of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who Zia overthrew in a military coup. Bhutto was hanged two years later on conviction of involvement in a murder plot.

"The country is beset with economic problems that are marked by a rapid rise in population of 3 million a year, a lack of infrastructure facilities, poor communications and a critical shortage of energy," Benazir said in a recent speech. "Simultaneously, the expectations of the people are soaring."

Minister for Law and Provincial Co-ordination Itikhar Gilani agreed that the new government faces an uphill task.

"The business of improving the quality of life of 110 million people is a daunting one," said Gilani, a lawyer. "We never thought it would be so complex. We are trying to clean the mess that has been piling up for the last 42 years."

The foreign debt is \$14 billion. The World Bank is providing a \$3 billion loan package during fiscal 1990, which started on July 1. The economy is growing at 5 per cent annually, but the government is trying to trim an annual budget deficit of Rs60 billion (\$2.9 billion).

It will collect more direct and indirect taxes this year under an International Monetary Fund package that offers \$823 million in loans if Pakistan meets certain budgetary targets.

Zia ruled eight years under martial law, and almost three more while holding the leash of a civilian government.

On Aug 17, 1988, his plane went inexplicably haywire after takeoff from a demonstration of a US battle tank, tumbling from the sky and disintegrating on a sandy plain in eastern Pakistan.

Pakistanis and US investigators ruled out technical failure and hinted at sabotage, but they did not say by whom. Speculation ranged from political opponents to foreign governments.

The crash paved the way for the country's first free elections in 11 years and returned Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party to power. Benazir became the first woman to lead a modern Muslim nation.

The 36-year-old prime minister, educated in the West, is cast abroad as a handmaiden of democracy. At home, she is a shrewd but querulous politician.

Benazir's earliest progress has been in foreign relations. She has been well received in Washington, London, Paris, Beijing, Tokyo, Riyadh and Ankara. Her government has pledged itself to improve relations with India and the Soviet Union.

She has continued Zia's support, with substantial weaponry from the United States, of fractious Muslim rebels fighting to topple Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government.

US President George Bush has pledged \$623 million in military and economic aid annually for the next six years in exchange for Benazir's promise not to develop nuclear weapons, which Pakistan is widely reported to be doing.

She also has promised to help strangle heroin production in Pakistan. Most of it winds up in the United States and Western Europe but Pakistani officials estimate there are about 1.5 million heroin addicts at home.

Benazir has met twice with her Indian counterpart, Rajiv Gandhi, and they have pledged to try to unlock disputes over the Himalayan state of Jammu-Kashmir, which have lingered since the partition of Pakistan from India at the end of British colonial rule in 1947.

Their armies still take potshots at each other some 20,000 feet (5,700 metres) up the Siachen glacier near the Chinese border.

Yet nine months into Benazir's five-year term, her left-leaning populism is increasingly challenged by her conservative and religious opposition — especially the nine-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) that includes Zia's proteges and his eldest son, Ijaz-ul-Haq.

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Benazir Bhutto listens attentively. In the background is a portrait of her father and former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

US tries to liberalise world trade

Critical comments of Fed policies endorsed

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15. (AP) — President George Bush said today he agreed with recent comments critical of the Federal Reserve, the US Central Bank, by White House Budget Director Richard Darman over interest rates.

Darman said on Sunday that the Federal Reserve Board should ease monetary policy and let interest rates fall.

"I thought his comments were very balanced. I can feel very comfortable with his saying that and saying that," Bush said at a White House news conference.

Darman suggested on an NBC television programme on Sunday that the independent policymaking Fed has been too restrictive in its management of interest rates.

"I'm fearful that they may have been a little bit too concerned that things have been going well and that they may have been a little bit too tight," Darman said.

"If we do have a recession I think it will be because they erred on the side of caution."

Darman's remarks about the Fed were seen as exceptionally direct.

The Federal Reserve pushed rates up by a sharp three percentage points for a year beginning in March 1988 to curb inflationary pressures in the economy, but the Central Bank has since eased credit on signs that growth has slowed down.

In June, convinced that inflation was no longer a pressing danger, the Fed reversed its credit tightening and eased the key federal funds rate, the interest banks charge each other for overnight loans, by about three-quarters of a point.

Although the Fed is concerned about the risk of a possible recession, Chairman Alan Greenspan has told Congress the Central Bank intends to act cautiously in lowering interest rates.

The Federal Reserve is responsible for setting the nation's monetary policy, which translates into setting the pace for interest rates. The Central Bank is independent from the administration and in the past there have been clashes between the two groups over interest rate policies.

US Trade Representative Carla Hills warned today that despite unwavering negotiations

to pry open foreign markets the United States' trade deficit could well increase due to unresolved problems in the nation's economy.

Hills said the United States is going to intensify its efforts to liberalise world trade within the Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and through multilateral and bilateral negotiations.

At a news briefing, she presented a schedule of her meetings for the next few months with Japan, the Association of South-East Nations, the Pacific rim countries, and the European Economic Community.

The agenda for negotiations with Tokyo includes such Japanese trade barriers as "collusive practices, price fixing, market allocation, boycotts, and bid rigging," plus structural impediments such as the high savings rate and the retailing system, which favours small stores, she said.

The trade representative stated that the United States is not seeking a trade agreement with ASEAN — formed by Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Brunei, and the

Philippines — but rather an "enhanced dialogue" on trade, and that contacts with ASEAN and the Pacific rim countries will not interfere with the Uruguay round.

Economists warn that bilateral agreements could carve up the world into rival trading blocs, destroying the current multilateral agreements under the umbrella of the GATT.

Hills, who said she does not plan on becoming a politician or running for president, also announced a revamping of the 15 US negotiating teams for the Uruguay round.

The round has a 16 months deadline to achieve reductions in global trade barriers. Major disputes have erupted around agriculture, intellectual property rights, bilateral and multilateral trade agreements, textiles, and tropical products.

Agriculture and intellectual property rights, vital to industries such as computer software and pharmaceuticals, are going to be toughest challenges, according to Hills.

Yet, she noted that the US \$130 billion trade deficit is more due to American economic

problems than to foreign restrictions on US products, and warned that the red ink could well worsen.

"I do not expect a dramatic decline" in the trade deficit, Hills said. The deficit in current account, the widest measure of US trade, "may actually build up," she added.

"We now have a stronger dollar," which makes US products abroad less competitive, she noted.

Hills blamed the trade deficit on such "macroeconomic" factors as an excess of consumption over production and of spending and investment over savings. Both shortfalls are financed with foreign resources, making the United States the world's largest debtor.

The work of the US trade representative, she emphasised, deals "with microeconomic" factors such as opening foreign markets, a policy that can only achieve limited results in deficit reduction.

Hills insisted that the government has to reduce its own fiscal deficit, so there would be "less federal dissavings." She expressed her support for changes in the



Alan Greenspan
tax laws to favour investments in individual retirement accounts. The US trade representative said that off-budget federal spending, such as that allowed for the thrifts bail-out, "does not help" the trade deficit as it worsens existing financial imbalances.

Bidding war may erupt in Canada

TORONTO, Aug. 15. (AP) — A bidding war may erupt now that resources giant Noranda Inc. has teamed up with a Swedish company to make a friendly takeover bid for the Canadian mining company Falconbridge, analysts said today.

Two weeks ago, Falconbridge accepted a buyout by the US mining giant AMAX Inc.

Noranda and Trelleborg AB, one of Sweden's leading industrial groups, announced yesterday they would pay a total 2.2 billion Canadian dollars, or \$37 a share, for the Falconbridge shares, they don't already own.

Together, the two own 31.2 per cent of the mining company's outstanding shares, excluding those held by McIntyre Mines, a Falconbridge subsidiary.

New York-based AMAX, a producer of aluminium, coal and gold, said it would pay 2.8 billion Canadian dollars, or \$36.13 a share, for Falconbridge. That deal requires approval by Falconbridge shareholders.

While officials from the companies involved refused to speculate on whether the Noranda-Trelleborg offer could trigger a bidding war, analysts said it has already started.

"I don't think anybody wanted to leave this bidding war," but I think AMAX will just walk away, settle up and play dead," said Terry O'Neil, an analyst with Morgan Stanley.

Noranda is a management holding company for Peter and Edward Brownman's resource companies.

Just before the AMAX bid, shares of Falconbridge sold for a little over \$30 a share. They shot up to \$36.12-1/2 the day of that bid and rose \$1.37-1/2 to close at \$38.12-1/2 a share yesterday on the Toronto Stock Exchange, with more than a million shares trading hands.

AMAX closed unchanged yesterday at \$27.62-1/2 on the New York Stock Exchange, while Noranda-Trelleborg's offer, said Falconbridge president Bill James, James said his board will make a determination on the bid within about 10 days.

After receiving the new bid, the Falconbridge board waived its shareholders' rights plan, which it set in place at the same time as the AMAX proposal. That plan would have given Falconbridge shareholders the right to buy additional shares at a cheaper price if any other group gained 15 per cent of the company's stock.

AMAX, apparently surprised by Noranda's offer, is trying to determine its next step, said spokesman Mitchell Badler.

"You can see if you want to go any higher, you can see if you want to fold your tent or you can see if you want to stay where you are," Badler said.

Discount rate sends KD deposits higher

Foreign currency speculation stopped

KUWAIT, Aug. 15. (KUNA) — The Minister of Finance Jassem Mohammad Al Khorafi reiterated in an interview published here today that the new prime rate applied last December has achieved its objectives and has contributed to the increase of private sector dinar-denominated deposits in Kuwait banks, thus leading to a decline in the demand for foreign currency-denominated deposits.

He told "Al Sandoq" newsletter published by the Kuwait Fund for Economic Development that there were other indications that the new discount rate had stopped speculation on foreign currency "or at least has lessened such speculation."

Al Khorafi added that application of new system was aimed at bridging the gap between interest rates on KD deposits and interest rates on foreign currency deposits.

He said that the new pricing system was also aimed at easing conversion from Kuwaiti dinar to other currencies and to lessen incentives for some clients to borrow Kuwaiti dinar loans from the local banks and converting the loans into other currencies to benefit from differentials in interest rates.

The minister indicated that the new pricing system took into consideration the requirements of the local economic situation in a way that the interest rates would not follow suit should world interest rates increase "because the Central Bank regulates liquidity levels within the banking system."

Turning to measures adopted

by the government to develop the Kuwaiti financial sector, the minister said that the government had reinforced and supported the Kuwaiti financial institutions' status to secure the required credibility for such institutions, locally and internationally.

He recalled the support the government has granted to national banks within the framework of settling difficult debts and the efforts exerted by the Central Bank to enable banks improve its performance, its work standards and the operative competency in order to reach international standards.

The minister stressed on the fact that the government was keen to see an inter-bank and inter-institutions competency capability. He added that restructuring some investment companies recently was aimed at "putting our companies on the long and difficult road of competition as regards provision of adequate capital."

Al Khorafi, meanwhile, indicated that Kuwait was still extending foreign assistance despite the budget deficit, adding that "Kuwait was still occupying a leading role in terms of its foreign assistance compared to the gross national product and thus maintaining a distinguished role in supporting development programmes in sisterly as well as friendly countries."

The Kuwaiti minister attributed the delay in achieving economic integration to failure of implementing resolutions in this regard issued by different Arab organisations.



Jassem Al Khorafi

He attributed failure to achieve economic integration in the Arab world to the policy of protectionism by individual Arab states without paying attention to future interests.

Differences in legislations and financial, economic and trading regulations between the Arab states, the minister explained, were also responsible for the Arab economic integration which lacks as well the easy

movement of funds, goods and commodities.

As to pan-Gulf economic integration, Al Khorafi singled out the difference of GCC's economic development plans as a major impediment towards this end.

But the obstacles blocking the Gulf economic integration, the minister said, were less sharp than those impeding that of the pan Arab integration.

American airlines cutting fares

CHICAGO, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — Major US airlines have slashed fares to stimulate autumn vacation travel between September and Christmas but industry analysts say the highly-restricted discounts are unlikely to bring back the fare wars that hit the industry in the early 1980s.

"This is not a change of industry pricing practice or a return to fare wars," said Paul Karos of First Boston.

The new fares — aimed squarely at leisure, not business, travellers — require a Saturday night stay and purchase of tickets by September 1.

The new fares are good news for vacation fliers. But the restrictions will limit their use to a relatively small number of vacationers, analysts said. This is crucial to the airlines because business travellers provide the bulk of their profits and the carriers do not want them taking advantage of discounts.

The cuts were initiated by Trans World Airlines yesterday and immediately matched by almost all carriers, except Delta Air Lines, which waited until today to adopt the new prices.

The fares start at \$108 and range to \$298 for round-trip tickets depending on the length of the flight and day of travel. That is \$50 to \$100 below the current lowest fares, some carriers said.

For example, fares between the east and west coasts would be \$198 today and tomorrow and \$298 other days.

The latest discounts can be used for travel for September 9 to December 15. The fares are non-refundable but, in a departure from past practice, allow on change of travel date without charge. Many airlines have moved in recent years toward non-refundable tickets that allowed no change in travel plans.

Pan Am and TWA, the two largest US carriers to Europe, also cut fares on international flights this fall.

High rates cool consumer boom

LONDON, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — The government said today British retail sales fell again in July in an apparent sign that high interest rates were halting a consumer-led inflationary boom.

Figures from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) said sales declined 0.6 per cent following a 2.3 per cent fall in June.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson has pushed bank base interest rates up to 14 from 7.5 per cent since mid-1988 to try to slow a consumer shopping spree which sucked in imports.

Such spending has helped to build up a record trade deficit and contributed heavily to a steady rise in annual inflation to a rate of 8.3 per cent in June compared with 4.6 a year earlier.

Yesterday's retail sales figures confirmed signs in recent weeks that Lawson's strategy is beginning to bite despite warnings from business leaders that it could lead to recession.

The Confederation of British Industry, the main employer's organisation, said high interest rates had slowed retail sales growth almost to a standstill in July.

In another encouraging indication for Lawson, the CSO said the annual rise in factory-gate prices slowed to 4.8 per cent in July compared with five per cent in June. The price of raw materials and fuel bought by manufacturing industries fell 0.9 per cent between June and July.

The government will announce inflation data for July on Friday. Figures on July unemployment and average earnings are due out on Thursday.

Debt-for-nature swap

WWF arranges

GLAND, Switzerland, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — The international conservation group WWF today signed a debt-for-nature swap with Zambia which will fund conservation projects in the African nation while at the same time reducing its debt.

Such deals, pioneered by Bolivia, Ecuador and Costa Rica in 1987 and now becoming more common, help preserve the environment in the Third World where pressure on nature is often greatest.

The operation relies on creditor banks being willing to sell developing nations' debt at a discount, preferring to get back part of the debt rather than risk having to write it all off.

The Gland-headquartered WWF, the World-Wide Fund for Nature, said today it signed the deal in Amsterdam to purchase \$2.27 million of debt Zambia owes to commercial banks for \$470,000 — paying only 20 cents on the dollar. The agreement was arranged by NMB Bank of the Netherlands.

In return, Zambia agreed to pay WWF the full \$2.27 million in its currency, the kwacha, to use for conservation.

"Zambia has large tracts of pristine wilderness representing an exceptional diversity of Central-South Africa ecosystems," WWF said.

WWF will use the money partly to help manage the Kafue River flats southwest of Lusaka and the region around lake Bangweulu in north-western Zambia, two of Africa's most important wetlands.

It will also help attack soil erosion and protect endangered species such as the rhinoceros and the elephant.

Today's deal was the second debt-for-nature swap in Africa and the seventh ever. On August 3 WWF signed a \$3 million pact with Madagascar to help pay for forest rangers.

But these deals did not appear to go as far as the first debt-for-nature swap, by Bolivia in 1987, under which La Paz promised to set aside rain forest permanently as a nature reserve.

Debt negotiators back home

Exploratory talks

CARACAS, Venezuela, Aug. 15. (AP) — Venezuela's negotiators returned home from the United States where they held exploratory talks on debt reduction with representatives of creditor banks, local newspapers reported today.

"It was a very instructive mission because we met with the people who will be making the final decisions on debt reduction," Miguel Rodriguez, a member of the three-man negotiating team, told reporters.

Earlier, Venezuela sought a 50 per cent reduction of principal and interest on its \$33 billion debt, the fourth largest in the developing world. But the request was rejected last month by a committee representing the creditor banks.

Rodriguez said the banks refused to go along with reductions suggested by the so-called Brady plan named after US treasurer Nicholas Brady.

"They said the same thing in 1982... that Latin America needed cash flows. (But) over time, we've seen this did not work," Rodriguez said. "We have a programme accorded with multilateral financial institutions that demonstrate that Venezuela has potential, but we need debt reduction along with external resources to finance the large investment projects."

Rodriguez would not say what had been discussed with the bank representatives in New York and Washington this past week. He only said the talks would continue.

Local press reports have said that Venezuela has offered to back up the remaining 50 per cent of its debt with oil futures, but Rodriguez declined to comment on the report.

He said the negotiators would hold similar talks with Japanese and European banks before returning to the bargaining table with the bank committee at an undetermined date.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — The All Ordinaries index fell 2.1 points to 1,713.4 as investors waited for today's annual budget and balance of payments figures due tomorrow.

TOKYO: A late rise gave the Nikkei index a 139.07 point boost to 34,810.69. Trade was thin but buyers pounced on any stock that rose.

HONG KONG: Prices ended little changed in featureless trading. The Hang Seng index fell 2.2 to 2,638.19 while turnover fell to 91.31 million H.K. dollars from 1.07 billion a day earlier.

SINGAPORE: Profit-taking clipped 8.39 points off the Straits Times industrial index, which closed at 1,371.57 after setting a post-crash high yesterday.

BOMBAY: Stock exchange closed for Independence Day holiday.

FRANKFURT: Prices of most shares continued to slide in thin trading, reversing gains of the past two weeks. Some traders expect prices to go on easing while others forecast a stabilisation at current levels. The DAX index fell 10.72 to 1,573.65.

Indian rupees	18.050
Sri Lankan rupees	8.410
Pakistan rupees	14.510
Bangladesh taka	9.190
US dollar	299.15
Pound sterling	474.00
Deutsche mark	153.85
UAE dirham	0.8150
Japanese yen	0.02110

Jordanian minister returns Moscow debt talks

AMMAN, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — A Jordanian minister returned from Moscow today after official talks on rescheduling Amman's debts to the Soviet Union and increasing bilateral trade, the state-run news agency Petra said.

It said Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Taher Al Masri had "fruitful financial talks on Jordan's debt to Moscow and on means of increasing Jordanian exports of phosphates to the Soviet Union."

Petra did not say whether the two countries reached an agreement on rescheduling Jordan's debt, incurred mainly through military purchases from the Soviet Union since 1982.

A senior official told Reuters last week Jordan hoped to reschedule the debt on the same terms as it reached with the Paris Club of major Western creditor nations.

He would not reveal the size of the debt but said a figure of \$200 million reported in an Arabic-language magazine was too high.

Jordan, with foreign debts of more than \$7 billion, won agreement from the Paris Club in July to reschedule some of its 1989-1990 official debt over 10 years with five years' grace.

It will shortly begin talks with the London Club of creditor banks on rescheduling its commercial debt.

Meanwhile the Central Bank told banks today it was ready to supply them with dollars at rates compatible with those of the free market where the Jordanian dinar continued to gain ground against the dollar.

Bankers said the Central Bank informed them it was ready to sell them dollars at a rate of 765 fils to be resold with a ceiling of 770 fils, levels similar to those offered by the free market today.

But dealers said they were meeting all their dollar demand from the local market where over the past three days Jordanians have been dumping their dollars for dinars after the local currency began firming following Central Bank involvement.

Tadiran up for sale

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — Israel's biggest non-government-owned electronics firm, Tadiran Ltd., is up for sale because of heavy losses.

Koor Industries Ltd., Israel's largest industrial concern, announced yesterday that it would sell Tadiran, whose main products are military hardware.

Officials at Koor, the indebted, labour federation-owned conglomerate, said Tadiran had a market value of \$200 million.

"Koor's board of directors appointed managing director Benny Gaon to handle the sale of Tadiran," Koor said in a statement, adding that the company might be sold in parts to get a higher price.

Financial markets subdued ahead of US statistics

LONDON, Aug. 15. (Reuters) — Currency and stock markets were subdued in Europe today as investors waited for a batch of US economic statistics due out later this week.

"It looks as if it's back to the doldrums and to range-trading till the US figures at the end of the week," said Tim Fox, treasury economist at London finance house Midland Montagu.

"It's a classic case of taking to the sidelines in a volatile environment," said one London share trader.

Figures for US industrial production in July are scheduled to be released tomorrow and economists said they were likely to show the American economy on a steady course.

But these statistics, will be overshadowed by trade data due out on Thursday which are expected to show the US deficit narrowing to \$9.3 billion in June from 10.2 billion in May, the economists said.

Currency dealers in London said any deficit smaller than \$10 billion would be further proof the US economy will avoid a recession and this would likely support the dollar.

The dollar closed in London at

1.9740 West German marks and 142.00 Japanese yen after ending Monday at 1.9395 and 141.75.

In the London equity market, the Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares edged up 0.3 points to end at 2,326.2 after losing 28.3 points on Monday.

West German shares continued to drift in Frankfurt, giving

up gains made in the last two weeks.

"This week has been marked by consolidation, but there has been good buying interest at lower levels," said one trader.

Wall Street failed to provide any significant lead and by mid-day in New York the Dow Jones industrial average stood 3.98 points higher at 2,681.90 in subdued trade.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1989

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	297.0
ADT LTD	143.0	JAGUAR	387.0
ALD LYONS	197.0	KINGFISHER	340.0
AMSTRAD	534.0	LADROONE	322.0
ARGYLL GP	70.0	LAND SECS	592.0
ASDA GP	206.0	LAPORTE	496.0
BAA	360.0	LASMO	490.0
BAT INDS	463.0	LEGAL-GEN	346.0
BARCLAYS	825.0	LLOYDS BK	374.0
BASS	515.0	LONGH	287.0
BEAZER	080.0	LUCAS 199	698.0
BELFORD	77.00	MAGNET AS	209.0
BET ORD	150.0	MARKS+SP	193.0
BICC PLC	314.0	MAXWELL C	193.0
BLCC ARW	547.0	MECCA LEST	168.0
BLCC CIRC	09.00	NAT WEST	327.0
BLOC GP	265.0	NEXT	33.50
BOOTS CO	291.0	NTN FOODS	341.0
BPB INDS	249.0	P & O DFD	667.0
BR CORN	182.0	PEARSON	818.0
BR AIRWAY	201.0	PILKINGTON	252.0
BR AEROSOL	695.0	PLESSEY	264.0
BR GAS RG	308.0	RACAL ELC	215.0
BR LAND	294.0	RACAL TEL	358.0
B.P.	73.00	RANK HVS	458.0
BR STEEL	250.0	RANK ORG	977.0
BR TELCOM	154.0	RECKITT+CO	201.0
BURZ	647.0	REDLAND	576.0
BURNHAM OL	247.0	REED	456.0
CABLEWIR	567.0	RMC GRP	755.0
CADBURYS	401.0	REUTERS	962.0
CALOR GRP	419.0	RTZ CORP	556.0
CLRTM CO	840.0	ROLLS ROY	186.0
CLRTM R.T.	830.0	ROTHMAN B	627.0
COOKSONS	373.0	ROYAL INS	438.0
COURTAULD	369.0	SAINSBURY	278.0
DALGETY	410.0	SEARS	124.0
DIXONS	168.0	SEDEGWICK	245.0
ENG CHINA	485.0	SHELL	434.0
ENTER OIL	580.0	SIEBE	523.0
FTI BABCK	122.5	SUN ALLIA	303.0
FERRANTI	764.0	SUN LIFE	605.0
FISONS	340.0	TARNAC	300.0
GATEWAY	237.0	TATE+LYLE	295.0
GEN ACCID	045.0	TYLR WOD	291.0
GEN ELEC	275.0	TI GROUP	468.0
GLAXO	492.0	TRAF HSE	387.0
GRANDAD	368.0	TSE	108.0
GLOBE	196.5	T + N	248.0
GLYNED	306.0	TRUSTHEE	337.0
GNIL	452.0	ULTRAMAR	328.0
GUINNESS	577.0	UNILEVER	634.0
HARMSON A	793.0	UTD NMSR	482.0
HANSON	234.0	WELLCOSE	515.0
HANSON WT	54.0	WHITRD IN	367.0
HARRISON C	165.0	WILLIAMS	266.0
HUKER SID	750.0	WILLIS FB	216.0
HILLSDOWN	296.0	WIMPEY GE	257.0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	025/0	023/0
600 GROUP	132/0	133/0
A. AMER TS	492/0	493/0
A.B. ELECT	383/0	381/0
A.S.W.HLD	280/0	280/0
AAB KENT	129/0	130/0
AARONSON	91/0	92/0
ADDISON	38.0	37.0
ADJUST	198/0	199/0
ALEX WRKV	224/0	225/0
ALEXON	401/0	400/0
ALLCO LTD	170/0	170/0
ALLD IR B	174/0	175/0
ALLD LON	150/0	150/0
ALLD PART	76/0	76/0
ALLD TEXT	383/0	382/0
ALLIANCE	161/0	162/0
AMBER DAY	66/0	66/0
AMEC	473/0	474/0
AMER TST	167/0	168/0
AMERSHAM	455/0	457/0
AMI HLTHC	418/0	417/0
ANGLIA SC	154/0	155/0
ANGLIA TV	304/0	304/0
ANSBACHER	75/0	76/0
APPLEYARD	162/0	162/0
APV PLC	143/0	145/0
ASHLEY LA	95/0	95/0
ATWOODS	490/0	490/0
AUST REED	403/0	405/0
AUTO SECS	268/0	269/0
AVESSO	150/0	150/0
AVON RUBB	558/0	555/0
B. WEHILL	279/0	280/0
BABCOCK	64/0	64/0
BAILL JAP	589/0	588/0
BAILL SHI	102/0	102/0
BAIRD (W)	233/0	234/0
BALITC	163/0	164/0
BANK REA	245/0	245/0
BANKER IT	97/0	98/0
BARDON GP	202/0	203/0
BARRT DEV	77/0	77/0
BAYNES C	35/0	35/0
BBA GROUP	213/0	213/0
BEAR BRND	12/6	13/0
BEATTIE J	143/0	143/0
BELHAVEN	53/0	53/0
BELLWAY	198/0	198/0
BENROSE	244/0	243/0
BENLOX HD	58/0	59/0
BERKELEY	194/0	194/0
BHK GROUP	142/0	142/0
BK OF SCO	107/0	107/0
BLCK LEC	9/0	9/0
BM GROUP	530/0	528/0
BNETT + F	96/0	96/0
BODDINGTON	183/0	183/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1947.8	1950.3	1950.3	1707.9
FT 500 SHR	1310.52	1310.52	1315.42	1182.7
FT ALL SHR	1182.81	1182.81	1196.73	1008.8
FT GOV SEC	87.46	87.46	87.32	106.59
FT GOLD MN	199.70	199.70	200.70	161.9
FT MINES F	712.13	712.13	723.68	565.31
FT OIL	2169.5	2169.5	2173.4	1978.9
FT MLD DLR	152.04	152.63	155.03	141.17
FT MLD STG	142.31	142.73	141.27	123.81
FT MLD LCL	144.86	145.52	145.80	129.77

London Stock Market Report

UK STOCKS QUIETLY MIXED, MANY OF NEW YORK GAINS
LONDON, AUG 15, REUTER - EQUITIES REMAINED MIXED TOWARDS THE END OF A QUIET SESSION, REFLECTING INVESTOR RELUCTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A MARKET DEPRESSED BY SHARP FALLS YESTERDAY AND FACING THE HURDLE OF A CRUCIAL SET OF U.K. AND U.S. DATA OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE MARKET TOOK A CAUTIOUS VIEW ON AN EARLY FIRM WALL STREET TREND AFTER ITS ADDITIVE ATTEMPT TO CLOSE AT A NEW ALL-TIME HIGH LATE LAST WEEK, DEALERS SAID.

ONE TRADER SAID "IT'S A CLASSIC CASE OF TAKING TO THE SIDELINES IN A VOLATILE ENVIRONMENT."

BY 1503 GMT THE FTSE INDEX WAS 2.3 UP AT 2,328.2.

U.K. JUNE AVERAGE EARNINGS DATA AND U.S. TRADE FIGURES FOR THE SAME MONTH ARE BOTH DUE FOR RELEASE ON THURSDAY.

ANALYSTS SAID THE U.K. WAGE DATA WILL BE IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INFLATION AFTER RECENT PAY SETTLEMENTS HAVE SHOWN AN UPWARD TREND.

U.S. TRADE FIGURES, THOUGH LESS CLOSELY WATCHED RECENTLY THAN INFLATION AND EMPLOYMENT DATA, COULD ACQUIRE GREATER IMPORTANCE THIS TIME BECAUSE OF WALL STREET'S PROXIMITY TO RECORD LEVELS.

ICI LOST 12P TO 1,288, PEARSON 4P TO 822 AND SHELL 1P TO 434, WHILE GLAXO ROSE 5P TO 1,493 AND BRITISH TELECOM 2P TO 251.

London Gold

LONDON, AUG 15, REUTER - GOLD BULLION PRICES EDGED UP TO THEIR HIGHS DURING LATE TRADING, TRACKING AN UPTICK IN NEW YORK, AND THE MARKET ENDED A LARGELY ROUTINE DAY STEADIER.

GOLD FINISHED AT 364.25/364.75 DLRs AN OUNCE, UP FROM OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 362.40/362.80 AND 362.00/362.50 DLRs.

DEALERS SAID TRADING TODAY WAS MOSTLY UNEVENTFUL, WITH GENERAL STEADINESS FOSTERED BY AN UNSETTLED DOLLAR. HOWEVER, GOLD LOOKS LIKELY TO TEST THE 365 DLR LEVEL IN THE SHORT TERM, HAVING STABILISED ABOVE THE 360 DLR AREA, THEY ADDED.

London Money Market

LONDON, AUG 15, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES ENDED THE DAY 1/16 POINT FIRMER ACROSS THE BOARD WITH STERLING'S DECLINE AGAINST BOTH DOLLAR AND MARK THE ONLY TRADING FACTOR.

DEALERS SAID VOLUME WAS VERY THIN IN BOTH CASH AND FUTURES MARKETS. MONEY MARKET DEALERS SEE A CUT IN BASE RATES NEAR THE END OF THE YEAR BUT IN THE MEANTIME THEY BELIEVE THE MARKET IS BOUND TO TRADE OFF CURRENCY MOVEMENTS.

STERLING CLOSED 0.3 POINTS LOWER AT 91.2 AFTER TOUCHING A LOW OF 90.9 EARLIER. IN LATE TRADING, THE BANK OF ENGLAND WAS REPORTED TO HAVE INTERVENED TO SUPPORT THE POUND BUT THIS HAD LITTLE IMMEDIATE EFFECT ON RATES.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.5730/40	1.9460/70	6.5775/05	NOON
STG	1.5740/50	2.0635/70	10.3490/3635	NOON
DMK	1.9416/9496	3.058/072	29.510/670	FIX
FFR	1.6790/6800	2.6402/6435	86.17/26	FIX
HFL	2.1945	3.4525	112.735	NOON
ECU	1.25726	0.791576	2.43582	CLSE
SDR	142.30/40	223.96/4.27		CLSE
SDR RATE	14/08/1989	OTHERS	15/08/1989	NOON

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A BSCH COM	42/0	42/3
ATLANTIC R	102/1	101/5
AAR CORP	31/5	31/6
ABBOTT LAB	61/7	61/7
ADMC CLVD	11/1	11/1
ADY MICRO	8/4	8/5
AEROFIL LAB	4/0	4/1
AETNA LIFE	58/3	58/3
GOODRICH	63/6	64/0
GOODYEAR	55/2	55/1
GRACE WR	35/3	35/1
GRANGER	61/6	61/6
GREYHOUND	35/6	35/7
GRUMMAN	20/1	20/1
GULF RES-C	10/0	10/0
HALLIBURTON	36/4	36/5
HALLWOOD	58/2	58/3
HANDLEN	19/1	19/0
HANNA MIN	26/6	26/7
HARMON	18/1	18/0
HARRIS CP	33/5	33/3
HECLA MIN	13/3	13/4
HEINZ HJ	60/2	60/0
HELM CURTIS	33/0	33/0
HERCULES	29/4	29/4
HEW-PACK	48/2	48/2
HEXCEL CP	53/1	52/6
HILLENBURG	29/6	29/6
HILTH HTLS	106/7	106/5
HITACHI	120/4	120/3
HITACHI MIN	13/4	13/4
HOLDAY C	16/8	16/8
HOLWAY C	68/5	69/1
HOM DEPOT	31/5	31/5
HONEYWELL	89/0	88/6
HONEYWELL	41/5	41/4
HUGHES	32/5	32/5
HUGHES SUP	19/3	19/3
HUMANA INC	37/0	37/1
IBM	116/4	116/1
ICN PHARMA	6/2	6/2
ILL PUR CO	15/5	15/6
ILLIN 4-08	21/3	21/0
INDIA GROV	13/5	13/5
INGRALL-R	46/6	46/4
JEFF PILOT	37/6	37/5
JER P-8-5	0	0/0
JOHNSON	39/5	38/7
JOHNSON-JNS	52/4	52/0
K HART CP	40/0	39/5
KAN CI P-L	34/5	34/3
KELLWOOD	34/0	33/7
KERR MCGEE	47/2	47/3
KEYSTONE	18/7	18/6
KIMB-CLARK	67/4	67/4
KLN R D A I	25/2	25/2
KW RID MWS	55/6	55/4
KROGER CP	17/4	17/4
LA ROMAL	17/2	17/1
LEHMAN	13/7	13/7
LENNAR	22/0	22/0
LINCOLN NA	53/7	53/5
LITTON IND	87/6	87/4
LOCKHEED	49/7	49/7
LOCTITE CP	49/2	49/2
LOEWS CORP	119/2	119/4
LOME STAR	34/3	34/3
LONGS DRUG	42/2	42/2
LOUIS	34/7	34/6
LTV INC	2/0	2/1
LTV 1-25	2/4	2/4
LTV 3-068	3/3	3/3
LTV 5-25	10/0	10/0
LUBRIZOL	43/5	43/3
LUBRIZOL	26/4	26/3
MALAYSIA F	11/6	11/6
MONT ASS	*12	*12
MARIETTA	48/3	48/3
MA CO INC	7/3	7/3
MANOR CARE	15/7	15/7
MANU NAVO	41/0	41/0
MARION LAB	35/7	35/7
MARRIOTT	39/1	39/1
MASCO CORP	28/2	28/1
MATTEL ELEC	179/0	177/4
MATTEL INC	17/3	17/3
MCA INCORP	66/6	67/0
MC DONALDS	29/0	29/0
MC DONNELL	73/2	73/1
MCGRAM-HIL	76/5	76/5
MEAD	42/6	42/6
MELVILLE	48/2	48/4
MERCK - CO	75/0	74/5
MEREDITH	36/4	36/3
MERRILL LY	35/1	35/2
MOBIL OIL	52/6	52/0
MONSANTO	115/4	115/4
MONTANA PO	40/2	40/2
MORGAN JP	40/6	40/6
MOTOROLA	58/6	59/0
MRS-MCLLEN	69/6	69/6
MURPHY OIL	38/4	38/4

Dow Jones Plus Indices

IND	LAST	CHANGE	HIGH	LOW
IND	2,681.90	+ 3.98	2,694.42	2,677.73
TRANS	1,400.07	- 13.87	1,414.83	1,399.00
UTILS	215.92	- 0.31	217.24	215.92
STOCKS	1,060.65	- 2.58	1,067.06	1,060.02
NYSE COMP	191.59	+ 0.22		
S-P COMPOSITE	343.54	+ 0.48		
NYSE INDS	229.83	+ 0.32		
AMEX INDEX	379.00			
NASDAQ COMP	459.97	- 0.02		
AMEX INTL INDEX	331.43	+ 1.70		
NASDAQ FIN'L	548.18	+ 0.03		
NASDAQ BANKING	487.35	- 1.31		
S-P 100 INDEX	319.90	+ 0.93		
NASDAQ INDS	445.28	+ 0.26		

Wall Street Statistics Composite

NYSE HIGHEST VOLUME			AMEX HIGHEST VOLUME			
PANHANDLE	27	-	1/2	MC SHIPPING	13 3/8	+ 1/2
MC DONALD'S	29 1/8	+ 1/8		BAT INDS	13 1/8	+ 3/8
SMITH CORP	17 5/8	-	3/8	ENERGY SVC	3 1/4	+ 1/8
AMR CORP	73 5/8	-	1 1/8	ECHO BAY	16 3/4	+ 1/4
PLACER DOM	16 1/8	+ 5/8		MATER RES	13 5/8	+ 3/8
TEXACO	52 3/4	+ 1/4		ATARI CP	9 1/8	- 1/4
CITICORP	31 3/4	+ 1/8		SOTHEBY'S	29 7/8	+ 2
ATT	38 5/8	+ 1/8		TEXAS AIR	16 7/8	- 3/8
PARAMOUNT	61 1/4	+ 1 3/8		KIRBY EXPL	8	UNCH
CEN ILL PS	22 7/8	-	1/8	UTD FDS A	3 5/8	+ 1/2

NYSE LARGEST	PER CENT CHANGE	AMEX LARGEST	PER CENT CHANGE		
LA QUINTA	9 1/4	+ 1	AMEX LARGEST	13 5/8	+ 3 3/8
CAP CIT	548	+63	UTD FDS B	3 5/8	+ 1/2
ASIA PAC	12 1/2	+ 7/8	UTD FDS A	3 5/8	+ 1/2
ZAPATA	2 1/2	- 1	NEW LINE	6 1/2	- 1
INTG RES	2 1/8	- 5/8	DIVI HOTEL	6 5/8	- 7/8

NYSE VOLUME	AMEX VOLUME
STOCKS UP	6,433,190
STOCKS DOWN	217
16-AUG NASDAQ VOLUME	100,446,600
STOCKS UP	764
STOCKS DOWN	1172

Wall Street Market Report

NEW YORK, Aug 15, (Reuters): US stock prices continued to post modest gains in late morning trading, encouraged by a recovery in bonds. President Bush's pledge to bring down the federal budget deficit without any new tax increases had little impact on financial markets, analysts said.

The Dow was up about five to 2683. Gainers outnumbered losers by about six to five.

"The market has moved up almost 1,000 points without very much being done about the budget, taxes or the foreign trade deficit," noted Gruntal's technical research director, Gene Seagle. "The market is reacting to the demand for stocks."

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International Bond Highlights

ARMAN

KUWAIT

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PHILIPPINES MAKATI

Makati Stock Market Report

PHILIPPINES MANILA

India Stock Market Report

SENGAPORE

Singapore Stock Market Report

Interbank Rates

US economic stimulus

	2ND QTR	3RD QTR	4TH QTR	1ST QTR
C/A BAL OF PAYMENT	-30.15 BLN	-29.17 BLN	-32.02 BLN	-27.63 BLN
(8/21)				

APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	
LEADING IND	0.6 PCT	-1.3 PCT	-0.1 PCT	9/1
PERSONAL INC	+0.6 PCT	+0.2 PCT	+0.3 PCT	8/30
UNEMPLOYMENT	5.3 PCT	5.2 PCT	5.3 PCT	5.2 PC

INVENTORIES	+0.8 PCT	+0.9 PCT	+0.4 PCT	
DURABLE GOODS	+3.2 PCT	-6.4 PCT	-0.3 PCT	8/22
TRADE BALANCES - BILLIONS LOCAL CURRENCY				
PROVISIONAL	LATEST MONTH	PREV.MONTH	YEAR AGO	

NETHERLANDS	MAY*	+1.1	+0.2	+0.7
SWITZERLAND	JUN	-0.979	-1.152	-0.804
U. K.	JUN*	-1.49	-1.32	-0.95
U. S.	APR	-8.26	-9.54	-8.80

CANADA	Q1	-3.7	-3.9	-4.8
FRANCE	Q1	+6.5	-21.8 R	+7.9
JAPAN-US DLRS	Q1	15.76	23.59	18.42
NETHERLANDS	Q1	+4.76	+3.29	+2.83

REAL NATIONAL INCOME - PCT CHANGE				
		LATEST QTR	YR/YR	PREV.QTR
CANADA **	GDP	Q1 +3.6		Q4 +2.8
		Q1 +3.8	YR +7.4	Q4 +2.1

W.GERMANY	GNP	Q1	+3.0	+4.2	Q4	+0.5	+2.7
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** THESE FIGURES ARE ANNUALISED QUARTLY RATES

HONG KONG

Tokyo Stock Market Report

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, AUG 15, (REUTERS) - SHARE PRICES ENDED LITTLE CHANGED IN FEATURELESS TRADE.

THE HANG SENG INDEX FELL 2.2 POINTS TO 2,638.19 AND THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX 1.97 TO 1,740.80. TURNOVER FELL TO 911.31 MLN H.K. DLS FROM 1.07 OF 917 BILLION ON MONDAY.

"WE JUST HAD BREAD-AND-BUTTER TRADING TODAY," A BROKER SAID. BROKERS SAID LITTLE OCCURRED TO SHAKE THE MARKET TODAY, ADDING THAT RECENT TURNOVER WAS STILL WELL ABOVE THE MARKET'S USUAL SUMMER LEVELS OF ABOUT 500 MLN TO 700 MLN DLS.

TALKS RESURFACED THAT CRUSADER FOUND A NEW HIT. IT ROSE 0.15 PER CENT TO ONE DOLLAR 14. TURNOVER OF 43.02 MLN DLS.

Currency rates

KUWAIT, Aug 15, (KUNA): Following are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait, today.

	<u>Buying</u>	<u>Selling</u>
US dollar	0.29811	0.29926
Sterling	0.47107	0.47319
Dm. " "	0.15308	0.15373
S. fr. " "	0.17744	0.17824
F. fr	0.04531	0.04551
It. lira	0.0002127	0.0002137
Jap. yen	0.0020920	0.0021016
Bh. dinar	0.79063	0.79386
UAE dh.	0.08116	0.08150
S. riyal	0.07948	0.07981
Q. riyal	0.08186	0.08222
O. riyal	0.77425	0.77736

Interest Rates

KUWAIT, Aug 15, (KUNA): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today:

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-3/16	8-1/2
3 months	8-3/8	8-5/8
6 months	8-7/16	8-3/4
1 year	8-7/16	8-13/16

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Japanese to raise share of West European car market

LONDON, Aug 15. (Reuters): Japanese manufacturers are poised to increase their share of the West European car market by more than 50 per cent by 1995, an independent report published today said.

The Economist Intelligence Unit study predicted that despite continuing restraints on exports, Japanese firms would take 17.8 per cent of the market that year against 11.3 per cent in 1988.

The British-based think-tank, part of the Economist Publications Ltd, said the increase would come largely through Japanese companies' production in

Europe and imports of their cars made in the United States.

The study, entitled "The passenger car market of Western Europe," also said car prices would fall in real terms up to 1995 despite the need to fit vehicles with expensive devices to cut pollution from exhaust emissions.

It said the creation of a single European Economic Community market in 1992, when the EEC plans to remove all internal trade barriers, would make it harder for carmakers to raise prices.

"This will necessitate further efforts to improve productivity and the continuing development of flexible manufacturing systems."

The report also said the environmental debate would be a big factor influencing the market in the 1990s as efforts to cut pollution continued.

Smaller cars and engines would be favoured in West Europe, which now generally prefers larger models, in part because of growing demands for fuel conservation and traffic congestion.

The trend towards small cars would lead to increased use of lightweight materials and designs maximising interior space.

The report forecast that West European manufacturers' share of their own market would slip from 86.3 per cent in 1988 to 74.4 per cent in 1995.

Imports would rise steadily with purchases from South Korea growing fastest — from 0.2 per cent in 1988 to 3.5 per cent. The study predicted West European car registrations would be at a record 13.35 million this year, 3.5 per cent up on 1988.

De Beers reports profit increase

JOHANNESBURG, Aug 15. (Reuters): De Beers Consolidated Mines, the South African company which controls 80 per cent of the world's diamonds, said its net profits rose 45 per cent in the first half of this year.

It said the results reflected buoyant demand for diamonds and the recent weakness of the South African rand against the US dollar, the currency in which diamond sales are transacted.

Net profit, including earnings from associate companies, advanced to 1.83 billion rand (\$658 million) from 1.26 billion rand (\$454 million) in January-June 1988.

This translated to earnings per share of 4.81 rand (\$1.73) against 3.31 rand (\$1.19) and the company declared an interim dividend of 62.5 cents (22.5 US cents) a share, compared with 45 cents (16.2 cents) a year earlier.

Net profit, excluding associates' earnings, was 1.23 billion rand (\$443 million).

De Beers controls world-wide marketing and sales of diamonds through its London-based Central Selling Organisation (CSO).

Last month De Beers reported world-wide sales of rough gems and industrial diamonds by the CSO rose five per cent to \$2.32 billion in the first half of 1989. But the company warned that growth in sales was slowing after a boom in the diamond market over the past few years.

De Beers said the stronger dollar on world markets, higher interest rates in the major economies and a 15.5-per cent price increase for rough diamonds announced last March had all played a role in slower growth for gem sales.

"After four years of consistently strong growth, 1989 may prove to be a year of consolidation for the CSO with fewer diamonds moving out to the cutting centres and on to the retailers," De Beers chairman Julian Ogilvie Thompson told shareholders in the company's annual report in May.

Meanwhile, President P.W. Botha's abrupt resignation could bring benefits for South Africa's sanctions-hit economy if his successor, F.W. de Klerk, steps up reforms of apartheid, economists said today.

"The markets and the business community will regard Botha's resignation with some relief," said Edward Osborn, chief economist at Nedbank Group, a major bank.

"This could bring a change toward greater constitutional reform which would bring spin-off benefits for the economy. Botha's resignation yesterday barely caused a ripple today in the country's financial markets, which traded calmly."

Financial analysts said de Klerk, who was sworn in as acting President today, had vowed to accelerate the pace of political change and this could help soften the attitudes of many Western nations which have imposed sanctions on Pretoria.

Trials soon on mini-video cameras

LONDON, Aug 15. (KUNA): British Ministry of Defence scientists are to carry out trials soon on special mini-video cameras that airlines may be compelled to attach to passenger jets as a safety factor.

The Times newspaper said today that the cameras would give pilots an overall view of an aircraft's exterior.

If the tests at the Royal Aircraft Establishment conclude that outside manoeuvrable cameras would be "beneficial", the Civil Aviation Authority is likely to instruct airlines to fit them to their jets.

Such a move would be revolutionary as no airline in the world has so far exterior cameras to give pilots an all-round view.

The investigation on special exterior video cameras began in Britain after the Manchester Airport crash in August 1985 in northern England, when a British Airtours Boeing 737 caught fire on take-off, killing 55 people.

'There is room for Fed to lower rates' Global economic prospects spur world stock markets

NEW YORK, Aug 14. (Reuters): World stock markets, which have rebounded on the outlook for global economic growth, should rise further as investors look forward to a period of moderating growth and low inflation.

The most popular gauge of Wall Street's performance, the Dow Jones industrial average, twice came within striking distance of a record close last week and most major world stock market indexes have achieved similar marks.

Profit-taking has increased as the indices close in on record levels. The Dow slipped 6.07 points yesterday to 2,677.92, some 45 points below its all-time high of 2,722.42, set on Aug 25, 1987, just two months before the crash.

British stocks also fell yesterday, but stocks analysts expect the markets to get over their jitters and break new ground after a period of consolidation.

"Recent economic indicators point to a slowdown in world economic growth," said Eric Sorensen, director of quantitative research at Salomon Bros. A 12-month mild growth slowdown associated with an easing in world-wide inflation pressures will provide a favourable environment for equities, he said.

A prescription of falling rates, steady profits and relatively low inflation has provided a remedy for equities markets, and investors are counting on more of the same.



Margaret Thatcher

"Generally the economies around the world look pretty healthy," said Robert Lawrence, senior fellow in economic studies at the Brookings Institution, a private economic research group. "In particular, the US economy looks as if it's warded off higher inflation and is prepared for reasonably steady growth. There is room for the Federal Reserve to lower interest rates."

Robert Howard, senior vice president and head of multinational finance for the Paribas Group in North America, said that as the memory of the 1987

collapse recedes, investors are focusing on lower interest rates and concluding, "let's get into equities for better returns."

Investors are also impressed with favourable political climates. In the United States, the new savings and loan rescue bill exemplifies the Bush administration's pragmatic, problem-solving orientation, Howard said.

The generally pro-business attitudes in Washington over the last decade have been reinforced in Europe by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in Britain and Chancellor Helmut Kohl in West Germany and have even influenced relatively small economies like New Zealand.

"People can look for opportunities across the markets and that gives individual markets and widening pool of potential buyers," said Howard.

Investors can be sellers as well as buyers, though, and in Tokyo, individuals and foreign investors have recently been net sellers. Tokyo's Nikkei average of 225 stocks is currently about 300 points below its record close of 34,953.87, set on July 31. It closed at 34,671.62 yesterday, down 41.34 points.

The Recruit Cosmos influence-peddling scandal and the resignations of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and his successor, Sosuke Uno, were country-specific events that have crimped the Tokyo market's performance.

World political developments this year made the most noticeable

impact on market activity in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong stocks climbed during the first half of 1989 but dropped precipitously, blighted by the killing of students protesters in Tiananmen Square and by worries about the fate of Hong Kong when the British colony reverts to Chinese control in 1997.

The British stock market appears to be in a much stronger position. British corporate earnings are somewhat weaker than the 20 per cent growth enjoyed at the time of the crash, but their profitability is higher and the current earnings growth rate — 10 per cent to 15 per cent — appears more sustainable.

In Frankfurt, foreign demand, especially from Japan, has boosted West German stocks which have moved decisively above their pre-1987 crash levels. Investors think inflation as well as domestic interest rates have peaked. They see real gross national product growth of 4 per cent for 1989.

French shares are at record highs and Paris dealers expect further gains. The key CAC General index is up 44 per cent since the 1987 crash. Dealers have noted increased demand for French stocks from foreign investors, as well as growing interest from the French in foreign stocks.

Zurich's all-share Swiss performance index last Friday set a new closing record at 1,214.8 points, 8.6 points above its pre-1987 crash high.

Bulgaria battles with loss of workforce

Plan to boost investment

KIRDJALI, Bulgaria, Aug 15. (Reuters): Weeds are spreading through family market gardens in the emptying ethnic Turkish villages of eastern Bulgaria.

But despite loss of people perceived as the lifeblood of much of the economy, factory production has been little affected so far, officials and managers say.

Bulgaria has lost 5.4 per cent of its workforce since June when ethnic Turks began fleeing Sofia's campaign to assimilate them.

A quarter of a million have since steamed over the border to Turkey in an exodus which followed the launch in May of a campaign for human rights protesting suppression of Turkish names, language and certain customs.

Tailoring formerly the work of ethnic Turkish women in scattered villages is being farmed out to countries as far away as Vietnam as Bulgaria's bosses get to grips with the labour drain.

Kirdjali factory director Kolyo Pavlov, busy helping to

pack tracksuits bound for West Germany, said he had already lost half his 3,100-man workforce and expected 80 per cent to leave.

"Nobody is saying this is going to be easy, but people are responding with enthusiasm and we will meet all our export orders," Pavlov said.

Planning Ministry permanent secretary Nikola Koichev said Bulgaria's 1989 production plan would be met and was exceeded in the first six months of the year.

Factory managers in the worst-hit east said that even if work had slowed no factories had closed and agricultural production was helped by bumper crops.

The ethnic Turks dominated the workforce in the tobacco, livestock, construction and transport sectors.

Volunteer labour brigades and reorganisation have met most short-term needs thanks to enthusiasm and the flexibility of Bulgaria's centrally planned factories and agri-business, managers said.

"It was wonderful to see the patriotic spirit," said dairy farm manager Ivan Dimitrov, faced with the loss of 90 of his 170 workers in a four-day period in June.

Koichev said no foreign workers would be brought in, since the drop in factory labour coincided with lower demand due to modernisation.

Pavlov said 1.5 million T-shirts would be made for him in Vietnam and he was talking to Soviet producers to compensate for other cutting and stitching, 90 per cent of which used to be done by ethnic Turkish villages.

In some districts where few exit passports have been issued, ethnic Turks say they are being virtually forced to stay at work to earn coupons used to buy bread and other supplies.

"They told us we could go after we'd picked the tobacco crop. But we're still here," said a youth in southeastern Jebel. Bulgaria says the ethnic Turks

who have left are tourists who can have their jobs back when they return. Scores have come back after failing to find suitable jobs in Turkey but factory managers are planning for the worst.

Pavlov said he had hired 300 new workers already and would take 500 more by the end of the year, mostly local women.

Dimitrov said he had drafted in volunteers from the "complex" (farm) and trained housewives.

"Everyone will stay at work until the job is finished," said a July order pinned to the notice board outside his farm, but Dimitrov said shifts were now nearly back to normal.

Factory managers and fellow workers said they had spoken to ethnic Turks asking them to reconsider.

In the long term, Koichev said Bulgaria would boost investment in the mechanisation of agriculture and might move away from the growing of tobacco.



Summer solution

A car mechanic outside his shop situated in the busy heart of Cairo, Egypt, finds a solution to working under the summer blazing sun by sticking a beach umbrella through the engine block. (Reuter wirephoto)

Foreigners may be allowed to deal in stocks

THE Korean government plans to allow foreigners to trade domestic stocks listed on the Korean Stock Exchange in over-the-counter (OTC) markets beginning in early September, a Ministry of Finance source said yesterday.

The OTC market is that vast, informally organised market which handles securities sales off the organised exchanges.

The government project means that foreigners can privately buy or sell shares underlying Korean stocks arising from the conversion of bonds floated overseas by Korean companies in foreign OTC markets, such as Tokyo and London.

"The step follows the issuance of overseas convertible bonds (CB) by Korean companies, including Samsung Electronics Co., whose right exercising dates for the conversion of the bonds into stocks approaches nearer," said a senior government official.

"If foreigners convert the CBs floated by Korean firms into stocks and sell the shares to other aliens, the government has no choice to allow the transactions under the ongoing capital market liberalisation programme, he noted.

Under the government's project, foreigners purchasing Korean stocks over the OTC markets are entitled to exercise stock right and dividend claim right.

At the same time, the government is planning to impose no taxes on foreigners for profits arising from the stock transactions in the OTC markets.

Presently, Koreans are also freed from taxes on profits stemming from share transactions in the Seoul stock market.

To allow the OTC market transactions of Korean stocks by foreigners, the government will soon revise related laws and regulations, the source said.

More study needed VDU health hazards

GENEVA, Aug 15. (Reuters): Use of video display unit (VDU) screens is spreading swiftly around the world, but too little is known about their possible health hazards, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said today.

"Knowledge of the health and safety aspects of working with VDUs has lagged behind during its rapid advance and is now an area of widespread concern," the 160-member United Nations agency said in a new study.

"Governmental agencies, trade unions and some industries — usually alerted by complaints of VDU users — have carried out a patchwork of studies on the possible adverse health effects of VDUs, with sometimes inconclusive results," it added.

The study said it was generally agreed that VDUs directly affected workers' eyes and muscular and bone systems, and indirectly contributed to stress.

But there were no higher risks of miscarriages and birth defects amongst women VDU operators.

"There are virtually no existing models of a global approach to the problems safeguarding the health of VDU users. This can be done only by co-operative efforts of governments, employers and workers to develop pragmatic rules and guidelines. The need is urgent," the ILO said.

It estimated that by 1990 more than 40 million VDUs would be operating at workplaces in North America, and a similar trend was apparent in most industrialised countries.

Bush signs relief bill

WASHINGTON, Aug 15. (Reuters): President George Bush approved a bill yesterday to provide almost \$900 million to farmers who lost crops in natural disasters this year.

"The farmer is at the mercy of the weather, and sometimes nature fails him," Bush said at a White House signing ceremony. "Farmers are indeed suffering, and this bill provides relief."

The bill will compensate farmers who have lost crops to drought, flood and other natural disasters during 1989, the third year in the last four in which the government came to the aid of disaster-stricken farmers.

Farmers who lost crops this year will be paid according to a plan that gives the most relief to those growing crops enrolled in government farm programmes who have also purchased crop insurance.

This year's bill amounting to \$885 million is less costly and less generous than last year's \$3.9 billion package.

"The cost of the disaster relief I am authorising today is reasonable," Bush said, in a sharp contrast from former President Ronald Reagan's description of the 1988 drought bill as the most generous in US history.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIKHA PORT AS ON 15/08/1989			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Petro Polis	Algh Barwil	4842988
3	Tao Lin	M. Bahar	2433881
19	Marianne	Al Bader	2433537
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIKHA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
15/8	Philo	GH & Q	4347815
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIKHA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
6	Lake Star	Algh Barwil	4843988
11	Shezan	Algh Barwil	4842988
19	Dhonakulhi	RSMS	2423642
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIKHA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
15/8	Liao Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
18/8	City of Beirut	B.B.H.	2433537
15/8	Baffin Bay	RSMS	2423642
15/8	Topaz	Algh Barwil	4842988
16/8	Rize K	RSMS	2423642
16/8	Marjon	Al Kamal	2425437
16/8	Pearl of Dubai	Steamco	2439973
16/8	Torbay	KMMC	2419814
17/8	Puffin Arrow	Algh S'Freight	4745533
20/8	Al Manakh	UASC	4843150
20/8	Nilam	Sager	2423692
23/8	Barzan	UASC	4843150

Compiled by: Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. WLL, Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988 ext. 3628/3648 Fax No. 4845712, Tlx 22084 Barwil KT Tlx 30694 SLS KY.

Autumn is a fine time to explore Britain

By Marc Kemmis

BURLY men will toss the caber and hammer, light-footed dancers will perform intricate steps, and the bagpipes will skirl — no doubt watched by members of the royal family — at the Braemar Royal Highland Gathering on September 2. It is the last major event of the 1989 summer season of Scottish Highland Games, but that does not mean Scotland, or the rest of Britain, then goes into winter hibernation.

Autumn is a fine time to explore Britain, and often has some of the gentlest weather. Roads, trains and historic buildings are less crowded and accommodation tends to be a little cheaper and easier to book.

For those interested in sport, September

is a rich month, with the new soccer and rugby seasons overlapping the year's final cricket matches, and many other attractions. These include the Burghley Horse Trials (Sept 7-10); and the start of the 32,000-mile Whitbread Round the World Race (in the Solent, Sept 2).

Golf followers have the Johnnie Walker Ryder Cup match between Europe and the USA (Sept 22-24); and horse-racing fans can watch the oldest classic event in the flat-racing calendar, the St. Leger Festival at Doncaster Racecourse in South Yorkshire (Sept 13-16). Linked with sport, but non-competitive, is the Southampton International Boat Show (Sept 15-23).

The Henry Wood Promenade Concerts at London's Royal Albert Hall reach their

finale on September 16 — after 68 concerts in 58 days. There are several excellent festivals of the arts, including London's wide-ranging film festival from November 1-26.

Autumn also brings the dazzling Blackpool illuminations (Sept 1 — Nov 5), a five-mile spectacular along the Lancashire resort's promenade; a medieval jousting tournament at Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire (Sept 10); and attempts on national and world water speed records on Windermere in the Lake District (Oct 16-20).

London has two enjoyable one-day events in November. Early on Sunday the 5th, long before fireworks are lit to mark the anniversary of Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot, some 300 elderly vehi-

cles gather in Hyde Park for the start of the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run.

The following Saturday, November 11, comes the Lord Mayor's Show, a colourful procession through the City from the Guildhall to the Royal Courts of Justice.

Autumn fades into winter, which will not worry the people of Glasgow who are eager to welcome in 1990 because that is their year as "European City of Culture". At midnight on December 31, a series of 10-minute fireworks displays in seven parks will ring the city, and they also plan a central laser and sky-tracker light show in George Square. Glasgow is putting on a vast programme of culture and fun, with over 1,500 events throughout next year.

EVENTS

Round-robin tourney starts on Oct 17

Nehru Cup world series cricket

BEGINNING October 17, 1989, cricket fans across India and all over the world will enjoy a fortnight's feast of one-day cricket.

The MRF World Series for the Jawahar Nehru Cup starts in India on that day.

In order to have maximum public involvement, the teams, Australia, England, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the West Indies will play at venues across the country. The likely centres under consideration are Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bombay, Cuttack, Chandigarh, Calcutta, Delhi, Goa, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Lucknow, Madras, Nagpur, Pune, Rajkot and Vizakapattam.

Final The final will be played at Calcutta on November 2, 1989 where a glittering trophy depicting a rose-bud will be presented to the winning team.

Official one-day international status has been given by the ICC for this tournament.

The tournament will be played on a round-robin basis. The top four teams will qualify for the semi-finals. The third and fourth positions would be decided by the hosts of a match between the losing semi-finalists.

Playing conditions will broadly be the same as in the last World Cup. In addition to the Nehru Trophy, the winner will be entitled to prize money amounting to \$48,000, runners-up \$25,000, for third and fourth positions, the prize money would be \$15,000 and \$10,000 respectively. There would be a special prize of

\$5,000 for the 'Man of the Series'. \$1,000/- would be paid to the 'Man of the Match' in all the 19 matches.

Pandit Nehru had a special affection for children; in order to commemorate this facet of his life and personality, an on-the-spot painting contest will be conducted for children at all the staging venues.

Pandit Nehru's concept of unity stretched beyond boundaries of caste, religion and all man-made boundaries. Cricket is one game which he not only liked, but believed was the best way for national integration. Both Nehru and cricket stand for unity. Hence, what better tribute to Nehru than the MRF World Series.

Unearth MRF not only sponsors major sports events, but has a deeper involvement in the development of sports. In the field of cricket, for instance there was an urgent need to unearth pace bowlers and MRF reacted by establishing the 'MRF Pace Foundation' in Madras under the guidance of Dennis Lillee.

In fact the year Pandit became prime minister MRF was born. From a humble beginning in 1947 MRF today is India's largest tyre manufacturer. MRF is a leader in all segments and the largest supplier to defence. With exports to over 50 countries, including UK and USA, MRF has crossed the Rs 700 crore turnover mark. In 1989 MRF won the Harvard Business School Award for the best Corporate performance amongst all private sector giants in India.



Nehru and cricket stand for unity.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat., Wed. 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, and rare books. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Tarso Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sada House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

Indian Arts Circle
AUGUST 17: To celebrate India's Independence Day all Indians are invited to a variety programme starting at 7.00 pm at the Indian Arts Circle, Fun, sites.

Indonesian embassy
AUGUST 17: On the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the proclamation of Independence of Indonesia, a flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at the Indonesian embassy in Kuwait, Nuzha, Block 3, Main Street, Villa No 32, on Thursday, at 8.00. Members of the Indonesian community are cordially invited.

Independents ball
AUGUST 17: At the Mesilla Beach Hotel from 8.30 pm onwards. Organised by Kuwait Independents Hockey. For tickets and details contact E. D'Mello (2421252) or S. Bajaj (2445825) after 7.30 pm.

Kapitok contest
AUGUST 25: Kapitok will hold the Little Mr and Mrs Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Plaza place, Salina. This coincides with Arwaning Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang - Tel: 483447.

LADIES' Keep Fit classes at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Free use of the pool after each session plus free use of the sauna on Tuesdays. Also judo, karate and taekwondo classes. Individual coaching for tennis and swimming available. Garden poolside barbeque every Friday afternoon. Recreation facilities include bowling, snooker and health club with sauna, steam bath and plunge pool. Telephone: Paul or Vivienne at 2330000/8050.

Kalpak exhibition
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature

Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Breeze '89
OCT 26: Tim Centre's - Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Shopping Sticks will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimir or Mario on Tel. No. 2441810/67 after 3.30 pm.

Fiesta Filipiniana
UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent leadership of Buddy Patangan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue, but at the spacious elegantly lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridian Hotel. Play date is set on Friday Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

Participants are kindly requested to submit their Civil ID card photocopies to Tolis Matig-A, the club's director on social and cultural affairs. Rehearsals commence on Friday, Aug 11, 1989. There will be a general meeting also for all his working committee on this said date.

For more particulars contact: Marie - 4317256, Tolis - 2417766. For ticket reservations, contact: Florence - 2436121 or 2439451.

Colva Nite
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ball Room of Ramadha Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact tel: 2413884/2434776/562914/14310913 after 5 pm.

Star Nite
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramadha Salim Al Dir'a with Perfect Strangers music. Children, entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

Final preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.

Flaskik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4 pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm, at the Meridian Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly

contact the following Flaskik officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Fontanets: 4843601, Malon Tadena: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext 4221, Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flaskik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

HOTELS

At the Kuwait International LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Falaka: Rooftop restaurant overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext. 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy our poolside barbeque event every Friday afternoon. La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, exotic fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

At the SAS hotel
AL GHAZER: SAS hotel's very own handicrafted show. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

AL BOOM: Dine on charcoal grilled foods and finish off with della coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursday and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese specialties served in a very cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

EEDAM: Wide varieties of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available. **CLOCK:** Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialties.

SOCIAL
At the Pullman Hotel
AL Shallal coffee shop: Offers daily businessmen's lunch "autour d'un plat" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7:30 pm.

Les Elysees Restaurant: Experience the ambience of French seating and meticulous service while savouring authentic French food offered on our "menu degustation," a four course meal served with a touch of nouvelle cuisine. For reservations, call: 5634200.

At the Holiday Inn
AT the coffeeshop: A variety of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5,000 per pax and half price for children.

Al Andalus: Thursday, Arabian night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

Family brunch: Friday, a wholesome day for the children. Bring along your kid and enjoy entertainment from Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises awaits each kid. Price KD5,000 for adults, and half per kid.

At the swimming pool: From 8:30 pm have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises awaits each one. Bring your family + friends + savour our delicious Shazad barbecue, at KD5,500 per pax and KD2,750 per child.

SPORTS

Recreation centre
SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn health club and Recreation Centre, all year round with qualified swimming instructors. Open to non-members. Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays 4-6:30 pm.

Men keep fit classes, Sundays and Tuesdays 6-7 pm. Ladies keep fit Sat and Tues. 6-7 pm. Saturdays and Tuesdays (7 to 8 pm) Yoga.

Bowling alley available for private company and community tournaments.

Sundays squash handicap tournament, all standards welcome, open to non-members. Squash coaching available from our two champions professional squash instructors.

Learn the martial arts with our black belt instructor - Wednesdays and Mondays (6:30 to 7:30 pm) mixed classes. Open to non-members.

Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals: Weight loss, body building, massage (steam - oil - cream) for ladies and men. Details contact the Recreation Department Tel No. 4742000 ext 6788 or 6700.

L.A.C. badminton
SEPT 7: L.A.C. is organising a badminton tournament open to "All Indians in Kuwait."

All those wishing to participate are requested to contact the organising committee for further information and entry forms. Contact: L.A.C. office Tel: 3904817 (6.00 pm to 10.30 pm); P.K. Koshy 3982578 or 3913476; Vijay Samuel 2401534 or 2644863; Philip Cherian 4741946 or 4330041.

Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club
PRE-SEASON training every Sunday and Tuesday starting at new time of 7:00 pm at the university ground, corner of Airport Road and 2nd Ring Road. Everybody welcome, old or new players and anyone interested in keeping fit. For further details contact Steve Hutchinson on 3721540 res. or 3260177 ext 5072 work.

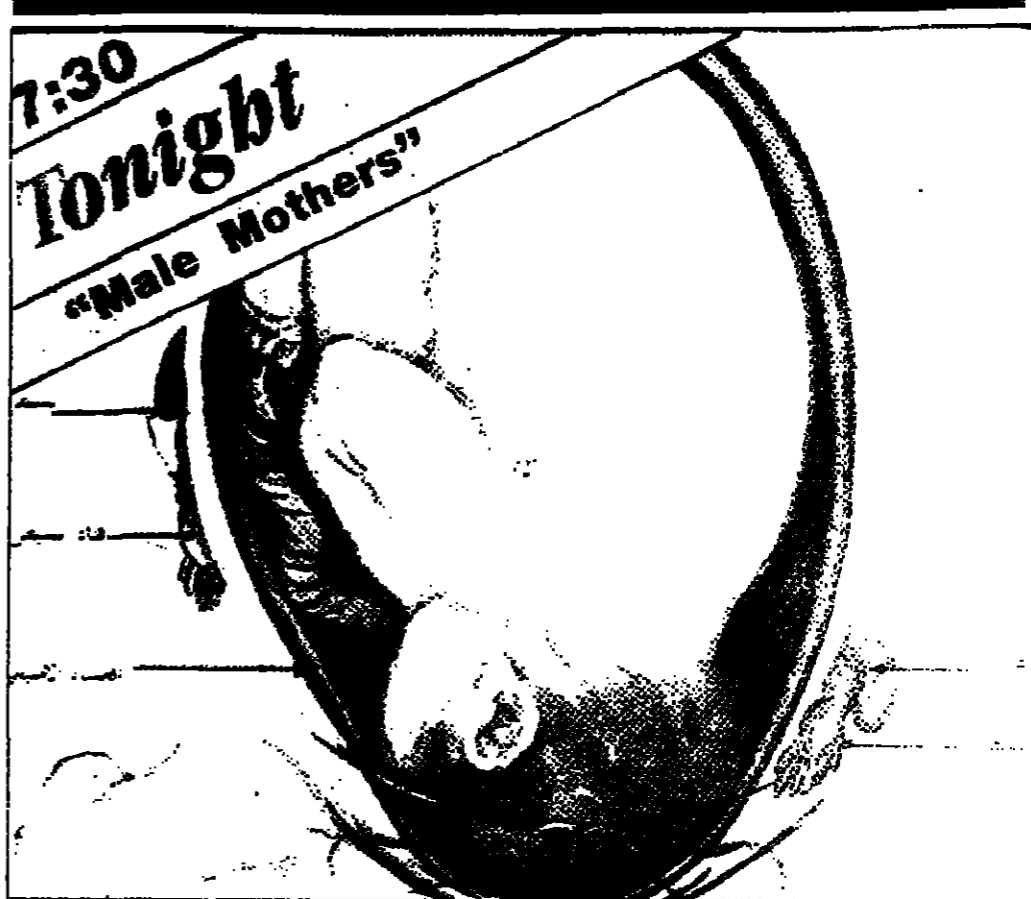
KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
9.30 Iftah Ya Simsim: children programme
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Mahlan Ayoha Al Omr: daily Arabic serial (Part II final)
11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
11.15 Naseeb: local serial (Part 7)
12.05 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
12.15 Hiwar Wa Nagham: variety programme, prepared by Qasem Abdul Qader
1.00 News Summary
1.05 The World Today via Satellite
1.30 Sport Billy: cartoon serial
2.00 Variety
2.15 Al Mehraath Wa El Bour: daily Arabic serial (Part 10)
3.15 Mawaqif Wa Khotab: religious programme
3.35 Billifiers: cartoon serial
4.00 Football match
6.00 Laila Min Alf Laila: children programme
6.30 Night Chemists, Airlines and official announcements
7.00 The World About Us: cultural programme
8.00 Variety
8.30 Popular Variety
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Mutasalliqoon: daily Arabic serial (Part II)
10.30 Mahakem Billa Sojoon: Bedouin serial, starring Dawood Jajji, Jeena Eid, and Mahmoud Abo Ghareeb
12.00 News Summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Trollkins: cartoon series
6.30 Safari to Adventure: "The Silent World." Natural phenomenon in one of the national parks.
7.00 Danger Bay: "A Man's Sport." Nicole finds herself surrounded by poachers and fights a

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



A scene from 'Body Matters' on KTV2 at 7.30 pm today.

7.30 **Tonight "Male Mothers"**
Body Matters: "Male Mothers - A Cure for Infertility." Is it possible for men to have babies? Watch this episode to find out.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Simon and Simon: "Love Song of Abigail Marsh." Ray hires the Simons to find his adopted brother. Starring: Gerald McRaney, Jameson Parker.
9.30 The Best of British: Tonight, a look at the spy thrillers made in Britain.
10.00 Learning the Ropes: one successful song and Mark believes he is going to become the singing sensation of the year! Comedy.
10.30 Movie Classics: "Mr and Ms Smith." (1941). B/W.
12.00 News Summary: Magazine D'Actualite: Holy Quran; Closedown.



A scene from 'Danger Bay' on KTV2 at 7 pm today.

Pullman has new general manager



ALAIN Miquel, 37, is the new general manager of the Pullman Hotel in Kuwait. Pullman is a chain of Pullman International Hotels (PIH), one of the 20 largest hotel groups worldwide.

In Kuwait, Pullman is synonymous with the "Les Elysees", the restaurant with a high standard of authentic French cuisine.

Miquel, a Frenchman started his career in the hospitality business 15 years ago in France. He attended hotel management schools in France and the United States. In addition, he is a member of the exclusive club "Chaine des Rotisseurs".

Cozy couple

Simon and Simon

GERALD McRaney of CBS's Simon & Simon (to be shown at 8.40 pm on KTV2) turns down most offers to appear on other series. But earlier this season, he accepted one on the spot without asking any questions. It was on CBS's Designing Women.

McRaney had met the sitcom's Delta Burke at an industry luncheon and admits he "wanted very much to see her again. I felt so immediately comfortable with her." After the initial episode was filmed, a smitten McRaney sent her

long-stemmed white roses, along with a letter that declared his strong feelings for her and asked her out.

He is now played her ex-husband twice ("We had our first love scenes in public") on Designing Women, and she's reciprocated with an appearance on Simon & Simon.

McRaney and Burke would like to solidify their co-star status further. They hope to wed at Thanksgiving, one of the few times they both have free.



Burke and McRaney

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Garnata Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Rashid Building
Ebin Sina Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabeer Street, property of Moutaq Al Raihan
Najra and Hawalli
Al Khayyam Pharmacy
Najra, Beirut Street, Opp. to Hawalli Central
Sahmny and Rasmithiya
Al Razi Street, property of Fahd Hamad Al Khaled
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Al Fulaq Pharmacy
Fahadheel, Makkah Street, near Safeway
Khaitan
Al Wehda Pharmacy
Main Street, property of Ali Saleh Al Alanda
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Al Mafati Street, Abdul Aziz Al Nasrallah Building

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Red Scorpion
Al Hamra
Arabic film
Al Sahliya
Revenge of the Nerds
Drive-In
Arabic film

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.52 am
Zuhr	11.52
Asr	3.28 pm
Maghreb	6.27
Isha	7.50

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

A leading Kuwaiti Industrial Contracting Company has the following vacancies:-

1. Piping & Steel Fabrication Foremen
2. Platemakers
3. Pipewelders
4. Pipefitter/Fabricators
5. Steel Fabricators
6. Sandblaster/Painters
7. Heavy Duty Drivers
8. Heavy Equipment/Crane Operators
9. Rigger/Scaffolders
10. Labourers

Drivers and equipment operators must possess valid Kuwaiti driving licences and all welders must possess current classification certificates.

Employment applications should be sent to the following address marked "CONFIDENTIAL":-

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
P O BOX 21998, SAFAT,
13080 - SAFAT - KUWAIT

OUTLOOK

By Kathy Cuddihy

IT'S more than twenty years since I was a commuter. You know, someone who gets up earlier than nature intended and arrives at the bus stop/train station by instinct rather than conscious effort. The bona fide commuter spends the journey either reading the morning paper, catching up on missed sleep, or staring glassy-eyed into space, vaguely wondering what he or she is doing there in the first place. Then, at quitting time, as the city belches out its labour force, the commuter trudges home exhausted, giving more or less a repeat performance of the morning's scenario.

Not always in a state of alertness, I didn't notice a lot at commute time, but it was apparent that commuters were creatures of habit. They stood at the same spot on the platforms every day to board their chosen carriages. This ritual spawned a comfortable relationship among passengers. Although strangers seldom became any more intimate than to exchange short nods and brief smiles, this was nevertheless enough to promote a feeling of security at being in the "right" carriage settled among familiar strangers.

During a recent trip to London, I happened to travel at rush hour on a commuter train. As an emotionally detached observer, the journey proved to be an

Commuter quirks

entertaining study of the commuter species.

Like commuters in my day and in my country, these suburbanites preferred to keep to the routine of the same carriage. And, like my vintage, they didn't interact much more than to nod and smile, although a few curt salutations of "morning" could be heard.

Because I commuted for less than a year, I only reached the level of amateur commuter, but I could see that the bunch in my carriage were real pros. Some had their techniques down to a fine art and it was amusing to watch their behaviour. I soon began to categorize people according to their idiosyncrasies.

"Neat" types caught my eye first. They stand in front of their seats and, with precise movements, remove their coats, fold them in precise folds, and then place them carefully on the overhead rack. Amazingly, they treat their newspapers with the same decorum. Each section is folded neatly into a manageable sheet one-quarter of the original size. As they finish reading a section, they tuck it away, neatly, behind their backs.

Everything is so tidy and organized about these people that it is a

disappointment when they try to put their coats on at the end of the journey... and inadvertently slap a fellow passenger in the face with an empty sleeve.

Clothing and accessories tend to distinguish the haves from the have-nots, but on a commuter train it's the choice of reading material which really classifies people. Readers of establishment newspapers and intellectual or socially acceptable books and magazines have an air of confidence and sometimes even superiority. Readers who prefer "trashy" novels simply hide the covers. Tabloid newspapers aren't so easy to hide, so those readers do the next best thing and try to make themselves as inconspicuous as possible. Obviously the gutter press appeals to even "upper crust" readers, though, or they wouldn't make such an effort, discreet though it might be, to peek at the headlines.

Into a very general category come the types with amusing or unpleasant mannerisms. These include the highbrow boppers who adorn themselves with headsets or earphones and listen to classical sounds which other passengers try to decipher according to the rhythm of the swaying bodies or nodding heads.

Lowbrow boppers leave nothing to the imagination because, despite their headsets, the music is audible to everyone within a six-seat radius.

A miscellany of sniffers, yawners and glassy-eyed stargazers adds diversion for the dedicated people-watcher types.

Last but not least are the sleepers. Sleepers don't waste their time folding their coats neatly. They simply slump into their seats, place their tickets in their hands so the conductor doesn't have to wake them, and quickly slip into a deep and restful sleep. There are the occasional snorers or gapers or snugglers who unconsciously make themselves cozy on a neighbouring shoulder but, in general, they're a peaceful lot. Marvellous internal clocks tell them when they arrive at their station... usually.

I identify strongly with the sleepers because that used to be my category. After my journey on the London train, I can see what I missed by sleeping. My long-ago travel companions seemed like such nice, normal people, but perhaps if I had kept my eyes open they could have amused me with their commuter quirks... just as I probably amused them with mine.

How stylish are you?

By Jenny Pulling

COULD you look good in a black plastic sack, or create an elegant meal from coconuts and shark meat on a desert island? Do the gifts you give express your personality without needing a card? Or maybe your idea of "style" is doing things on a lavish scale? Answer the questions below as honestly as you can, and find out if you really are stylish by nature.

1. What is your attitude towards telling untruths?

- (a) White lies are necessary sometimes
(b) Great if you can get away with them
(c) Inexcusable
(d) Oiling life's wheels

2. What sort of clothes do you think are stylish?

- (a) A co-ordinated outfit
(b) A design that allows personality to come through
(c) Something bearing a haute-couture label
(d) A whole new look

3. How would you choose to spend a small windfall?

- (a) A splash-out night with friends or family
(b) A new Roman-style bathroom
(c) Start a wine cellar with bottles of '82 Chateau Margaux
(d) Invest in silverware

4. When you serve a meal to friends, what is your priority?

- (a) Making sure there's enough to drink.
(b) What is served.
(c) The way it is served.
(d) Making sure there's enough to eat.

5. You have given up smoking and find yourself in a situation where everyone else is puffing

away. Do you?

- (a) Lecture them on the evil of their ways.
(b) Make light of it when someone comments.
(c) Accept a cigarette but leave it untouched.
(d) Tell everyone of your achievement and then drop the subject.

6. Which style of handwriting do you think is nearest to yours?

- (a) Sharp points and triangular shapes.
(b) A smooth round style.
(c) Squarish letters.
(d) Carefree flourishes of the pen, twirls on letter endings and t-bars.

7. At a party, one of the guests spill a glass of red wine down your best shirt or dress. Do you?

- (a) Ask your hostess for some salt and try to soak up the wine.
(b) Parade the stain as a souvenir of a "sophisticated" party.
(c) Shout at the person who did it for being drunk and demand he pay the cleaning bill.

8. You accepted an invitation to a boring occasion in a weak moment and now regret it. Would you?

- (a) Go, but make excuses to leave early.
(b) Ask a friend to excuse you, saying you are ill.
(c) Go and pretend to enjoy yourself.
(d) Phone and say, without explanation, that you have to cancel the arrangement.

9. If you were made redundant what would your reaction be?

- (a) Cultivate wealthy friends.
(b) Shop at an already worn clothes shop.

10. How do you interpret the famous remark: "The rich are different from us?"

- (a) It is a state of mind.
(b) They can afford to have style.
(c) They have more money.
(d) They don't have to work.

11. Everything at a dinner party is tastefully presented except for the food, which is, frankly, terrible. When your hostess asks whether you enjoyed your meal, do you?

- (a) Praise everything except the food.
(b) Say it reminded you of a Cordon Bleu meal you had in France.
(c) Say vaguely that it was lovely.
(d) Pretend you didn't hear the question.

12. You are invited to go for a job interview. How do you choose to dress?

- (a) According to what you do for a living.
(b) As you think the person interviewing you would like.
(c) As the person you are.
(d) As the person you would like to be.

13. At a party an unfair remark is made about a friend of yours. Everyone laughs, but you feel it could ruin your friend's reputation. Do you?

- (a) Suggest it would be better if the friend could defend himself/herself.
(b) Angriely attack the teller of the story.
(c) Quietly record straight.
(d) Tell something untrue about the storyteller to teach them a lesson.

14. Your old partner, who ditched you, arrives at a party with a new companion. Do you?

- (a) Take their partner aside and tell them a few home truths.
(b) Decide to leave.
(c) Have it out with your old flame.
(d) Greet them and continue to enjoy yourself.

15. Travelling light, what would you consider to be indispensable?

- (a) Money.
(b) A bottle opener.
(c) A pair of designer jeans.
(d) A toothbrush.

(c) Change your diet.

(d) Continue your present way of life.

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How to score: Tick one answer to every question and then score as follows:

- 1.(d)10; (b)5; (a)3; (c)0. 2.(b)10; (d)5; (a)3; (c)0.
3.(c)10; (b)5; (a)3; (d)0. 4.(c)10; (b)5; (a)3; (d)0.
5.(b)10; (d)5; (a)3; (c)0. 6.(d)10; (a)5; (b)3; (c)0.
7.(a)10; (d)5; (b)3; (c)0. 8.(a)10; (c)5; (b)3; (d)0.
9.(d)10; (a)5; (b)3; (c)0. 10.(a)10; (c)5; (b)3; (d)0.
11.(c)10; (a)5; (b)3; (d)0. 12.(c)10; (d)5; (b)3; (a)0.
13.(c)10; (a)5; (b)3; (d)0. 14.(d)10; (b)5; (a)3; (c)0.
15.(c)10; (a)5; (b)3; (d)0.

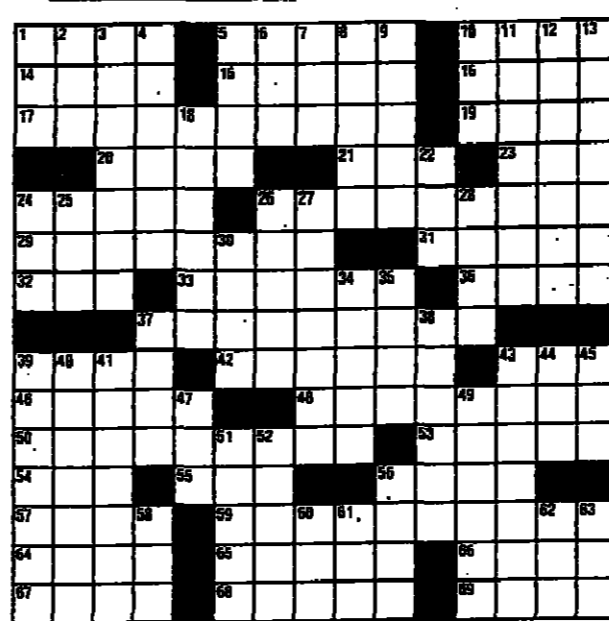
If your score is between 110-150: "polish", "grace", "taste" and "know-how" are just some of the gifts your fairy godmother has showered on you. Style to you is as natural as breathing. You have a sense of occasion in even the most mundane situations and you don't see why life shouldn't be a pleasure. Keep up the sophisticated work!

If your score is between 80-110: you are stylish and you like and admire style in other people. In your attempts to cultivate quality you are not always as spontaneous as you might be though. Have more confidence in yourself and your own good taste. Style should come naturally... you shouldn't have to continually think about it.

If your score is between 40-80: You are determined to introduce style into your life... even if it is only to cover your timid nature. Not exactly skilled in the social graces, you are liable to open your mouth and put your foot in it. But people like the fact that you are genuine. And, on the occasions you do make a gaff, they are more than willing to forgive you.

If your score is below 40: You really are a rough diamond, aren't you? You weren't at the back of the queue when style was being handed out - you weren't even in the queue. Not only do you refuse to hide your lack of manners but you are a little envious of anyone who shows some polish. If you really want to have style, check the answers that scored a hundred plus.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Wood: Comb. form
5 Colorful parrot
10 Needy
14 Vivacity
15 Writer Jong
16 In the past
17 Middle Earth's creator
19 Jump a gap
20 Some votes
21 Sports off.
23 To's opposite
24 Actor Buddy
26 Co-founder of the NAACP
29 Ceremonial code
31 See 42 Across
32 Computer in "2001..."
33 Standard
36 Greek letters
37 Confed. commander at Chancellorsville
39 Playwright David
42 With 31 Across, "A Fistful of Dollars" director
43 Regular guy
46 Poetry muse
48 Continental
50 British landscape painter
- DOWN**
- 12 "Sweet potato" Berlin
13 Lies quietly
16 Wife of Paris
22 Hope or wish follower
24 NT book
25 Bikini part
26 More inferior
27 Main Street sight
28 Borscht base
30 Corn holders
34 Soothsayer
35 Lion's den
37 "Light of Day" actress Joan
38 First-year man
39 Celebrate
40 Where Yerevan is
41 Rare blue
43 French avant-garde sculptor
44 Lumox
45 Tolkien's talking tree
47 No more in stock
48 Roves stealthily
51 One of the Gandhis
52 Aural disturbance
56 Goblet feature

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

AT ODDS WITH THE MATTER

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 10 7 4 2
♥ 4 3 2
♦ A 7
♣ 10 8 7 5

WEST
♠ J 5
♥ J 10 9 5
♦ Q J 10 4 3
♣ J 2

EAST
♠ Q 9 8 6
♥ Q 8 6
♦ 8 2
♣ Q 6 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 3
♥ A K 7
♦ K 9 6 5
♣ A K 9

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦
North-South's holdings in the two black suits are almost identical. But there is just enough difference between the two to make the choice of which to develop crucial. Choose the right one and you're a hero.

North-South were using the old 22-24 point range for their no trump opening bids. North trotted out the Stayman Convention to check for a possible 4-4 spade fit.

then settled in three no trump when South denied a four-card major.

The queen of diamonds opening lead got the defense off to their best start because it attacked dummy's only entry. There were eight fast tricks, and either black suit could produce the ninth. The trouble was that, after the lead, declarer could not afford to pick the wrong suit to try to establish. The moment he surrendered a trick, the defenders would knock out the table's entry.

It might seem there is little to choose between the suits, but that is not so. A careful review of the spot cards reveals the club suit offers far better prospects than spades. Declarer can develop an extra spade trick if the suit breaks 3-3 or if East has a doubleton honor. The clubs offer an extra chance. In addition to an even split, you develop a third club trick when either defender holds a doubleton honor.

So, declarer won the king of diamonds, cashed the A K of clubs and, when the jack dropped, the nine forced the queen and set up the ten as the game-going trick.



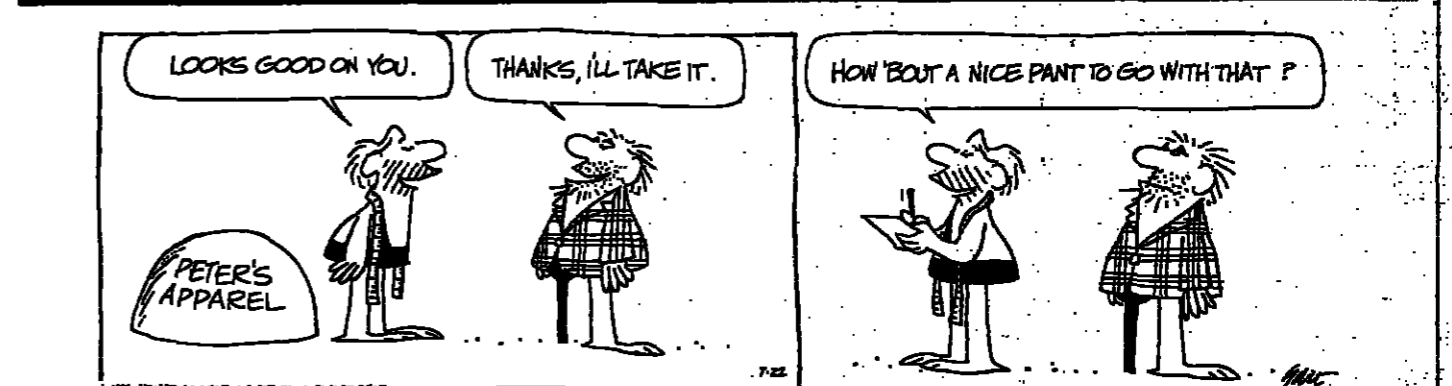
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>There will be a tendency to press the wrong button. Try to rely less on others, more on yourself. Do not act on hearsay and do not believe all you hear. Be considerate.</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>You will be better able to take matters in your stride. If you try to do things too quickly you will not be able to do them well. Avoid making a promise which you would find it hard to keep. Be lenient.</p>	<p>Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>You will have something to be pleased about but do not let it go to your head. You should stick to your principles and not allow yourself to be dissuaded from what you know is right. However avoid being obstinate. Be reliable.</p>	<p>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)</p> <p>You must concentrate on doing first what is most important. You will tend to feel rather nervous and should do all you can to calm yourself. Show a little more goodwill towards others. Be considerate.</p>
<p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>Nothing will seem to go right for you just now. However the bad patch you are going through is nearly over. You will find it rather easier to make up your mind. Be less rash.</p>	<p>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</p> <p>Do not permit yourself to be distracted. You will have to deal with a person who is being something of a nuisance. Do not always expect to have the last word. Be patient.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will be able to make a few changes for the better. A temptation to exceed speed limits must be resisted at all costs. Make sure you do not put your health at risk. Be sincere.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>Something you have been trying to learn will now become a lot easier to grasp. You will be able to do something that will greatly please your partner. Do not allow yourself to get too heavily into debt. Be truthful.</p>
<p>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>Do not allow work altogether to dominate your waking hours. Take sufficient exercise but do not strain yourself. Give your partner no cause to feel aggrieved with you. Be forgiving.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</p> <p>You will find that it is better to replace a well worn device rather than trying to repair it. Try to ensure that your partner does not feel lonely or unwanted. This is not the right time for excessive risks or gambles. Be attentive.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>Money will tend to go through your fingers like water and you must beware of overspending. Your lucky numbers are 22 and 42. Make sure you do not let your partner down. Rely more on your reason than on your intuition. Be loyal.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</p> <p>You are far too liable to put the cart before the horse and must restrain yourself. Make sure you do not take love for granted: if you do you may lose it. Do your best to avoid being angry. Be trustworthy.</p>

Michelle Pfeiffer in love with acting

On the brink of superstardom

By Laura Zackon

IN Hollywood, stunning Michelle Pfeiffer is being hailed as the new Garbo and is expected to become Meryl Streep's successor as the movies' hottest property.

Described in Tinseltown parlance as "drop-dead gorgeous", Michelle stars in *Married to the Mob*, adding to the impact already made in last year's *The Witches of Eastwick*.

She has already had three films released this year but the Mafia spoof is the one tipped to raise her to mega-star status.

The actress received critical acclaim in *Tequila Sunrise* and *Dangerous Liaisons* both seen earlier this year but it is her performance as the widow of a mobster, who leaves a life of luxury to escape the world of criminals, that is set to catapult her into the big league.

Yet the more successful she becomes, the less willing she is to talk about her private life.

Her shyness hasn't lessened her popularity. She is regularly voted one of the top 10 most beautiful women in America. One magazine described her as "the most drop-dead beautiful woman in Hollywood since Grace Kelly".

Yet 30-year-old Michelle doesn't believe she is particularly good-looking. She said: "I think my looks are just conventional, not interesting at all. I don't know why everyone keeps going on about them."

"After all, it's not difficult to be 'drop-dead gorgeous' in a film if you've got someone to do your hair for you and someone to do your make-up and someone fussing about making sure everything looks right."

"What's hard is if an actress tries to look that good off-screen. That can send you crazy. Me, I don't even wear make-up when I'm not working."

And the girl film off Barry Norman once described as "arguably the prettiest woman in films today" is just as modest about her reviews.



Michelle Pfeiffer with her co-stars Cher, Jack Nicholson and Susan Sarandon in 'Witches of Eastwick'.

"The critics have been kind to me," she said. "The trouble is, there's a part of me that knows I don't deserve it."

"Whenever I got a good review in the past, I was convinced the studio had paid for it or that I'd met the critic and he'd taken a fancy to me. I just couldn't believe something good was being written about me for no reason."

"Now, I know that's not true but, even so, I tend to think: Why are they being so nice to me?"

Michelle, a former supermarket check-out girl and high school dropout, came to Hollywood as the winner of a beauty contest, despite warnings from

her father that if she wanted to become an actress she would have to "carry a mattress on her back and sleep with everyone."

Fortunately for her, he was wrong. Despite her beauty, which has actually lost her roles, and despite some terrible films among them, the forgotten *Grease II* and *Scarface*—she has now made it into the big time.

In *The Witches of Eastwick*, she starred with established names like Jack Nicholson and Cher but still held her own.

And she was a huge hit in *Tequila Sunrise* and *Dangerous Liaisons*.

Behind her hardworking exterior lie many upsets. She

recently parted from her husband of eight years, TV's *Thirtysomething* star Peter Horton. They met at drama school and he rescued her from a dangerous religious cult.

She said: "I was brainwashed. They preached vegetarianism and I thought it would keep me slim. Instead, they milked me for money. But I couldn't function without them."

And about Peter, she said: "Our divorce was a huge disappointment. He's a great guy and we really are good friends now. But getting married at 22 was too young and it was a mistake. As we started growing up, our needs changed."

She went on: "It bothers me, this obsession people seem to have with your private life."

Michelle's affair with John Malkovich, her co-star in *Dangerous Liaisons*, ended in heartbreak. She wanted Malkovich to leave his wife, actress Glenn Headley, and marry her but he refused.

And she turned down a part in the new *Batman* movie because a former boyfriend, Michael Keaton, was playing the title role.

She said: "I'd turn down movies rather than just work. When I first went into this business, someone said that being able to turn down a part was the only thing that would ever give me power."

If that is the case, Michelle has power aplenty. She receives around 10 film offers a week and even had the guts to turn down the first film she was ever offered.

"I guess I've served my apprenticeship and thankfully people are beginning to realise I have a little talent," she said.

"Even at the beginning, when I was doing junk television, I still

had this focus. I knew I wasn't going to be doing this forever. I wasn't going to be like that..."

And now Michelle is in that wonderful position of being perched on the brink of superstardom. She is one of Hollywood's hardest working actresses and is known as a perfectionist.

In *Married to the Mob*, she plays Angela, a gangster's widow determined to leave her underworld connections when her husband dies.

But the FBI refuse to believe she has gone straight and sends an agent, played by the dashing Matthew Modine, to tail her.

Innocent

He believes she is innocent but his bosses and her Mob family don't — and the plot thickens when the two fall in love.

Michelle said: "I like *Married to the Mob* a lot. But I don't think I'm funny. I never think I'm funny and I'm always in these comedies. See, I don't know how or why this happens but I always end up playing the anchor, the person whose job is to be believable. And not necessarily funny. That's what happens to me all the time."

Michelle is originally from Midway City in Orange County, California, and is the daughter of heating and air-conditioning contractor.

She hated school and decided to go to drama classes because she could earn English credits from them. She said: "I just fell in love with people there. They are funny, witty, really interesting. It was the only class I ever made an effort to go to."

But after her arrival in Los Angeles, she fell into dead-end jobs, modelling and auditions for TV commercials.

Inevitably, because of her incredible looks, she was offered a run of sexy parts. "I used to call up my agent, crying on the phone: 'They're putting me in hotpans again!'"

But after her roles in *Grease II*, *Scarface* and especially *Ladyhawke*, she was noticed by the big casting agents and has never looked back.

Roles in *Into the Night* and *Sweet Liberty* followed. Now she is set to make her stage debut this year as Olivia in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*.

In this departure from film acting, Michelle stars with two other big movie names, Gregory Hines and Jeff Goldblum.

She said: "I'm doing it because I just felt I needed to shock myself into some sort of expansion and not get complacent."

"It wasn't until I got into it that I started to panic. But what's the worst thing that can happen? So I'm bad. So they don't let me do Shakespeare again or at least not in New York. Well, there are worse things than that in life."

And on the subject of looks, one of the world's top 10 most beautiful women added: "I'm not falling into the trap. Looks change and fade."

What Michelle really wants is quiet, settled private life. "I'm getting comfortable with being alone," she said. "Slowly, I'm liking my life."



Justin Lebo works to fix an old bike.

Hobby put to work

12-year-old American hero

By Kirsten A. Conover

SADDLE BROOK, N.J.: When Justin Lebo bought an old bicycle a couple of years ago, he didn't think in terms of a childhood career. He replaced old parts, gave it a fresh paint job, and it looked like new.

That was fun; so Justin, 10 at the time, got hold of a few more "junks". After watching his dad fix bikes, he got to be pretty good at refurbishing them on his own.

Problem was, what to do with the extra bikes? With the support of his parents, he donated two of them to Kilbarchan, a residential treatment center for boys which at the time had 20 youngsters between the ages of 8 and 14.

"The kids were so happy," said Justin, now 12, in an interview over a milkshake in his home. "When we were leaving, they said, 'Wait, you're forgetting your bikes,' thinking that we had just let them borrow them."

"I thought it was so nice that they were so happy, I decided to make one for every kid," he continued.

Justin saved his allowance and birthday money. He and his parents scoured garage sales, and alerted friends and neighbours. Whenever Justin saw someone with a new bike, he'd ask, "What did you do with your old one?"

"He's always been mechanically inclined," says

Justin's dad, Mike Lebo. "Even when he was quite young, it would not be unusual for him to take something apart and put it back together again."

But with bikes, it wasn't that easy. "Sometimes it takes three to six junks to make one good one," says Justin's mother, Diane. "They were mostly bikes going in the garbage." Often, they needed new parts. Justin spent time after school, weekends, and summer vacation working to meet a deadline he had set for himself: By Christmas, every boy at Kilbarchan would have his own bike.

Newspaper coverage brought more bikes his way, as well as donations and moral support. He met his goal with two bikes to spare.

"They loved the bikes," says Marcia Guthrie, director of Kilbarchan. "Here was somebody doing this just because he wanted to do no ulterior motives. It was good for them to see that," she continues. On getting a bicycle, "one little kid said, 'It's like getting a new book, it opens up a whole new world.'"

Justin has continued his bike building, donating bikes to another boys' home and to families in need. His tally exceeds 40. Now he's working on bikes that will go to children at a battered-women's shelter.

Almost every bicycle gets a new seat, new tires, and new grips, says Justin.

Christian Science Monitor.

A step ahead of the rest

By Kate Callen

WANT to be a step "a-head" this fall? Throw out your old look and try a new colour, a new length, even a radical new shape.

Bedaring. After all, it's your hair.

Your hair is no longer exempt from seasonal fashion dictates. You can put on one of the new unconstructed jackets and top it with an elegant shawl, but if you keep mousing your hair into a wild mane, you'll just be declassing this season.

The big look in hair now is short, sleek and shapely, soft to the touch and subtly rich in color, experts say.

"Round shapes are popular now, very full and very bouffant. Women are exposing more skin, showing their ears, their temples and jawlines," said Carmine Minardi of Minardi/Minardi Imagemakers in Manhattan.

"Shine has replaced the wet look. The less you do to your hair, the better. Natural, great-looking hair is better than overworked hair," said Gordon Nelson of Regis Hairstylists, a national chain.

The two styling experts agreed that like the season's minimalist look in clothing, new hair

fashions are pared-down and classic, "probably the biggest change we've seen in five or six years," said Minardi.

The myth about short hair being boyish and unflattering has been exploded by the trend toward layered, wavy cuts, say the experts.

"The new styles are versatile. They can be worn close to the face with business attire or directed away from the face to show more skin in the evenings," said Minardi.

"Short hair can be very feminine—look at Jamie Lee Curtis. It's less aggressive than the blown-out look."

For women who aren't ready to hack off their tresses, "you can keep your hair long and gather it in ponytails or twists to give the appearance of short hair," said Minardi.

Minardi urged women to be as creative with their hair as they are with their accessories and jewellery. "Your hair is your ultimate fashion accessory and it's probably your most changeable accessory," he said. "You can spend an hour in a good hair salon and emerge with the same kind of lift that comes with cosmetic surgery or an expensive new wardrobe—and at a fraction of the cost."

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

COLD CONDITIONING COULD RELIEVE RAYNAUD'S SYNDROME

QUESTION: I suffer from Raynaud's Syndrome and am constantly on the lookout for any new method of treating this annoying and frustrating condition. A friend read about a method that trains the body to respond to cold without causing problems in the hands. Do you know anything about this, and would you explain it to me?

ANSWER: Dealing with the problems caused by Raynaud's Syndrome can indeed be frustrating, for this condition causes the smallest arteries of the fingers (arterioles) to constrict when exposed to colder temperatures, resulting in extreme reduction of blood flow to the digits, followed by redness and pain when circulation is restored.

Women are affected more frequently than men, and the medical treatment may leave a good deal to be desired, a new method of behavioral conditioning, which your friend read about, consists of conditioning the body to cold by exposing the whole body to 0 degrees Celsius air, while keeping the fingers immersed in warm water at 43 C. This is done repeatedly, and in many cases a higher skin temperature than previously noted, is found when the patient is exposed to cold tem-

peratures. Many patients report fewer symptoms and feel that the improvement has lasted long after the conditioning has been completed.

Since there are many possible causes for the syndrome, a complete and accurate diagnosis is necessary to assure that your condition is suitable for such training. Your physician's counseling is a must. Of course smoking is a no-no since nicotine is a potent constrictor of blood vessels. However, the technique, which has now been adapted for home training, offers real promise of improvement, and should be given a thorough opportunity to work for you.

QUESTION: Can you tell me about the effects of polio that seem to come on long after the patient has recovered from the disease?

ANSWER: "Post-polio syndrome," or the delayed effects of polio disease, is estimated to affect about one-fourth of all polio survivors. The symptoms, which generally include new weakness, fatigue, pain and loss of muscle function, may occur 10-40 years after the acute illness. Researchers emphasize the importance of accurately diagnosing patients with symptoms of post-polio syn-

drome since such symptoms may be mistaken for more common diseases. A careful and complete medical exam is essential in making an accurate diagnosis.

It's reassuring to note that the symptoms are generally benign and most symptoms respond to therapy, which may involve exercise, anti-inflammatory drugs, brace adjustments, and counseling. Less encouraging, however, is the fact that most cases of the syndrome involve an underlying disease called "post-polio myelitis muscular atrophy" (PPMA), a progressive condition for which there is no known cure.

Researchers across the country, including physicians, epidemiologists, and others, continue to conduct clinical and laboratory studies to identify the causes and treatment of the late effects of polio. Despite these efforts, however, it may be at least 20 years before such data is available, according to some experts.

If you were a polio victim, and now are being treated by a new physician, be sure to alert him or her, so that all your complaints may be evaluated in light of this syndrome. 1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

Magic with a little fairy dust

By Kirsten A. Conover

NORWELL, Mass.: "Keep in mind smoothness, and watch your space," calls Joe McGeough to three floating children. He's teaching them to fly.

All you need is a little fairy dust and some "lovely, wonderful thoughts," according to Peter Pan. Plus ropes, cables, wires, pulleys, harnesses, and some strong stagehands with firm grips, Mr. McGeough would add. He works for Flying for Foy.

Anything you've seen a show with flying people, be it a musical, opera, ballet, or rock concert, chances are that Flying by Foy had something to do with it. It owns the patent on the flying harness.

It was McGeough's father-in-law, Peter Foy, who started the company about 35 years ago. In fact, he flew Mary Martin in "Peter Pan" on Broadway in 1954. Mr. Foy's son Garry flew Sandy Duncan in the musical's reprise in 1979. McGeough helped fly both Mary Martin (for a benefit in San Francisco a few years ago) and Sandy Duncan. Overall, the company has more than 3,000 productions of "Peter Pan" under its belt.

Here, a community theatre company. That New Theatre, has been rehearsing hard for the musical version of the J.M. Barrie play. McGeough flew out (on a plane) from Las Vegas, Nev., to help them achieve "that effortless look," which is what flying is all about, he says. Foy provides the equipment.

At a dress rehearsal, surrounded by roughhousing Indians and Lost Boys, McGeough talked about his airborne adventures.

The trick is to make flying look real. The emphasis is not on the equipment, but on the choreography — the interplay of operators and actors. "There's more to flying than strapping someone in a harness," he says.

"If someone has a frightened look or doesn't look quite right (while flying), the audience feels uncomfortable," he says. Part of McGeough's job is putting the actors at ease.

"Joe is so calm and collected, so good at



Joe McGeough, standing down below, instructs Donna Milani Luther who's learning to fly using a stage harness.

what he does — I was never once afraid," says Donna Milani Luther, who plays Peter Pan. She says her harness, which resembles a parachutist's and is worn underneath costumes, is confining and often painful. "But I'm having the best time in years," she says. For children, lighter in weight, it's pure fun.

"To be up in the air, it feels like, 'Wow! How can I be doing this? I must be dreaming,'" says Jason Reis, 11, who plays John Darling.

"Everybody's dream, whether they're a child or an adult, is to fly," says McGeough, who's flown himself. "It's a real sensation of freedom," and for kids it's magical moment when they fly, he says.

McGeough has some hilarious Peter Pan

bloopers to tell. There was the time during a rehearsal with Sandy Duncan when "we ended up flying Michael up Wendy's dress," he says. At another production, someone pulled the wrong rope in the last act: Jane (Wendy's daughter) is asleep, and Peter is supposed to fly through the window. Instead, sleeping Jane flew across the room — blankets and all — and Peter Pan was left hanging.

Peter Pan is just one faithful customer of Flying by Foy. The company travels worldwide and does some very complicated flying scenes, McGeough says. He refers to "Nina and the Twelve Months," a Russian play recently performed in Japan. The flying routines required motorized rigs with 12 people flying in a circle around one person suspended in the middle. A lot of engineering was involved.

When the Seattle Opera did Wagner's "Die Walkure," it had to fly women opera singers (each weighing about 220 pounds) riding model horses 20 to 30 feet in the air, he says, gasping.

Outdoor productions have a different set of problems. Take David Bowie's Glass Spider concert two years ago, for example. They had to set up roof trusses and scaffolding, and take the wind into account, says McGeough. In addition to Mr. Bowie, he's worked with a fair number of celebrities including David Letterman and Olympic gymnast Cathy Rigby ("She flies very well").

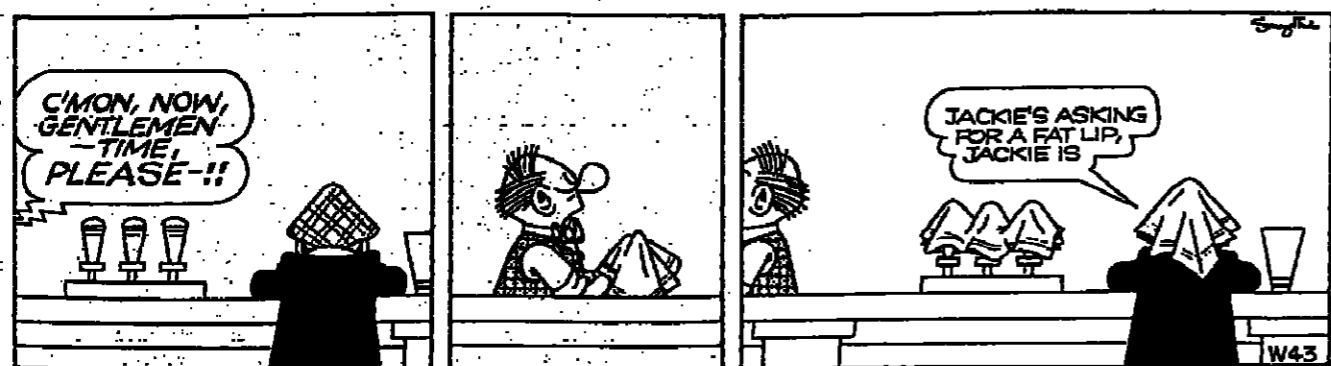
Are people ever afraid? Maybe at first, but for the most part, performers grasp flying quickly and enjoy it. But "every once in a while, you get someone who flies like a sack of potatoes — Liberace was like that; he was horrible!" he says, rolling his eyes.

Back to rehearsal, McGeough shouts instruction: "Windmill! Windmill!" he calls to flying Peter Pan. Then he scolds the people manning the ropes for not working together better. "I try to put myself in the air with the person," he offers. That way, there's a better chance the audience will come along for the ride, too.

Christian Science Monitor.

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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ہم امریت کھینچ لایمچہد کر نیوالی عوامی جمہوری قوتوں کی آوازیں بے نظیر

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قوی جمعی اور پاکستانی عوام کی خوشحالی کے لئے جدوجہد جاری رہے گی

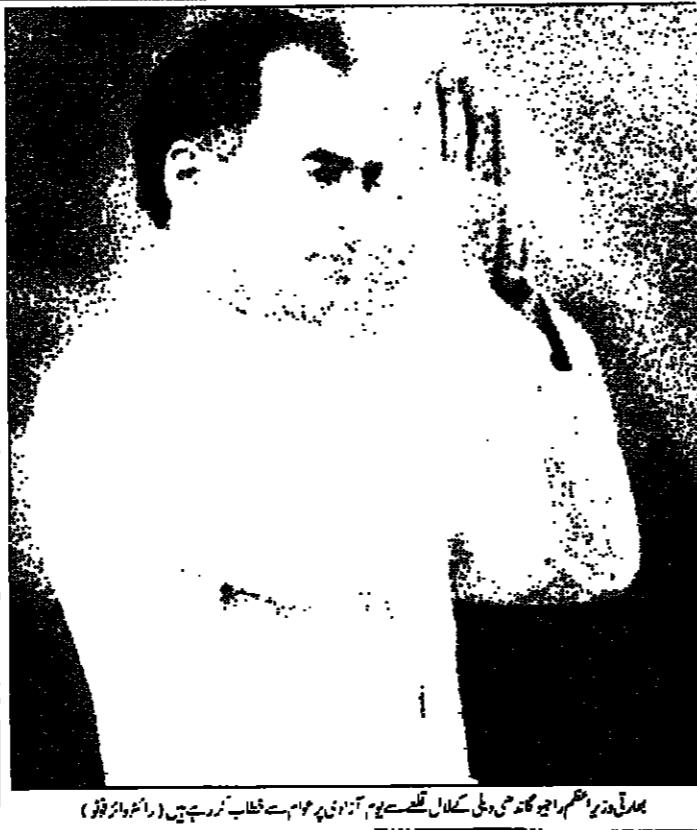
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اسلام آباد - ۱۵ اگست (عرب ٹائمز رپورٹ) وزیر اعظم یحییٰ خان نے یوم آزادی پر خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ ہم امریت کھینچ لایمچہد کر نیوالی عوامی جمہوری قوتوں کی آوازیں بے نظیر رکھیں گے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستانی عوام کی خوشحالی کے لئے جدوجہد جاری رہے گی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستانی عوام کی خوشحالی کے لئے جدوجہد جاری رہے گی۔

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بھارتی فوجوں کی واپس کے پلان پر نظر ثانی کرے، صدر پر بھارتیوں کا مطالبہ۔ بھارتی فوجوں کی واپس کے پلان پر نظر ثانی کرے، صدر پر بھارتیوں کا مطالبہ۔

بیرونی بھٹ میں ہندو اثر میں

بیرونی بھٹ میں ہندو اثر میں۔ بیرونی بھٹ میں ہندو اثر میں۔ بیرونی بھٹ میں ہندو اثر میں۔

قیدیوں نے آسٹریلی مشنری خاتون کو بیدردی سے قتل کر دیا

قیدیوں نے آسٹریلی مشنری خاتون کو بیدردی سے قتل کر دیا۔ قیدیوں نے آسٹریلی مشنری خاتون کو بیدردی سے قتل کر دیا۔

کراچی میں پھر نسلی فسادات بھڑک اٹھے، گھر افراد ہلاک اور زخمی ہو گئے

کراچی میں پھر نسلی فسادات بھڑک اٹھے، گھر افراد ہلاک اور زخمی ہو گئے۔ کراچی میں پھر نسلی فسادات بھڑک اٹھے، گھر افراد ہلاک اور زخمی ہو گئے۔

ایک مسافر طیارہ چاہے ہونے سے سال بچ گیا، وارنٹوں کے خلاف

ایک مسافر طیارہ چاہے ہونے سے سال بچ گیا، وارنٹوں کے خلاف۔ ایک مسافر طیارہ چاہے ہونے سے سال بچ گیا، وارنٹوں کے خلاف۔

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ضیاء کے طیارے کی تباہی کے اسباب کی پردہ پوشی کا الزام

ضیاء کے طیارے کی تباہی کے اسباب کی پردہ پوشی کا الزام۔ ضیاء کے طیارے کی تباہی کے اسباب کی پردہ پوشی کا الزام۔

نیپال کی سیل میں یرغمالی ڈرامے کاغونین ڈراپ سین، ۵ اہل قیدی اور پانچ یرغمالی ہلاک

نیپال کی سیل میں یرغمالی ڈرامے کاغونین ڈراپ سین، ۵ اہل قیدی اور پانچ یرغمالی ہلاک۔ نیپال کی سیل میں یرغمالی ڈرامے کاغونین ڈراپ سین، ۵ اہل قیدی اور پانچ یرغمالی ہلاک۔

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SPORTS

Salov draws with Karpov to retain lead

SKELLEFTEA, Sweden, Aug 15, (AP)—Soviet grandmaster Valery Salov drew his game with Anatoly Karpov in the third round of the World Chess cup yesterday and maintained his half-point lead.

Salov has two and a half points out of three. Sharing second place with two points are British grandmaster Nigel Short, Jan Ehlvest of the Soviet Union and Hungary's Lajos Portisch.

World champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union has one and a half points out of two plus a slightly favourable adjourned game against Robert Hübner of West Germany.

The World Cup is a series of six tournaments

featuring the world's top 25 players competing for a total prize fund of \$1.2 million.

Organized by the Grandmasters' Association, a players' body presided over by Kasparov, the World Cup is widely regarded as the second most important event in chess after the individual world championship final.

Each player competes in four tournaments, with their three best results counting. This is the final event in the series.

In the only decisive game of the day, Portisch defeated Viktor Korchnoi, a Soviet defector who now plays for Switzerland. After reaching an equal endgame, Korchnoi wasted time with

an unnecessary manoeuvre. This enabled Portisch to run a pawn up the board and win a knight.

Korchnoi, the fifth ranked player in the world, has now lost all three games.

In his game, Kasparov gained an extremely dangerous attack from the opening and won his opponents queen in exchange for a rook and a knight.

But the 26-year-old Soviet allowed Huebner to set a "fortress" defensive formation which may be impossible to crack.

Karpov said Kasparov's position was "very

difficult to win."

Kasparov is firmly entrenched in first place in the series. Karpov is the only competitor who can unseat him.

Salov, 25, once worked as Karpov's trainer and he defeated the former world champion in the fifth World Cup tournament in the Dutch city of Rotterdam in June.

But despite playing with the advantage of the white pieces, Salov failed to make any impression and eventually agreed to a draw.

Soviet grandmaster Jan Ehlvest, who is lying third in the World Cup standings, agreed to a rapid draw with Zoltan Ribli of Hungary.

Nunn outpoints Barkley

IBF middleweight champion retains title

RENO, Nevada, Aug 15, (AP)—Michael Nunn, mixing boxing with punching, retained the International Boxing Federation middleweight title on a 12-round majority decision over aggressive Iran Barkley last night at the Lawlor Events Centre.

Nunn, sometimes counter-

punching, sometimes sticking and moving, sometimes mixing it up inside, seemed to clearly have the upper hand yet the three judges saw it as a close fight.

Barkley came forward throughout the fight and caught an assortment of punches, which ripped a cut over the left eye and

on the lower lip. But he stayed on his feet and landed some of his best punches in the late rounds.

Judge Keith Macdonald of Reno scored it 14-114. Judge Art Lurie of Las Vegas had it 116-113 and Glen Hamada of Washington, had it 115-113, both for Nunn, who now has won all 34 of

his pro fights. Barkley was never able to mount a sustained attack as Nunn sometimes would circle him, sometimes would go to the ropes and counter and other times would meet Barkley inside.

On the inside, Nunn seemed to nullify most of Barkley's blows while scoring with short punches of his own.

According to a computer breakdown of punches, Nunn landed 346 out of 689, while Barkley connected on 245 of 980.

Nunn was credited with connecting on 143 jabs to 80 for Barkley.

The left-handed Nunn cut Barkley's lip in the very first round that lasted 10 seconds past the three-minute limit. He then cut Barkley over the left eye in the third, but the cut man, Eddie Alaimo, kept the gashes from becoming a factor. By the seventh round it looked as if Barkley's left eye would close but it remained open.

Barkley, losing for the sixth time against 25 victories, 16 by knockout, had the best of the fourth round when he landed a right uppercut and scored effectively to the body. Barkley, who weighed the class limit of 160 (72.5 kilograms), landed most of his punches to the body of the 159-pound (72-kilogram) Nunn.

Barkley landed a good left-right and then stunned Nunn with a hard left hook just past the two-minute mark of the 11th round. He also landed a couple of good left hooks later in the round and another hard hook early in the 12th.

Nunn, however, closed out the fight with a flurry of punches to the head. He unleashed several similar flurries in several early rounds.

Nunn, making his third defense of the title, had his best rounds in the eighth, ninth and 10th.

Nunn's footspeed and hand quickness seemed to be the major differences in this fight.

The loss left the 29-year-old Barkley's status in the middleweight division in doubt. In his previous bout, he had lost the World Boxing Council title on a 12-round split decision to Roberto Duran.

Duran, who is scheduled to fight Sugar Ray Leonard in Las Vegas, appeared in a three-round exhibition before a crowd of about 6,500. But he merely went through the motions against Danny Morgan in three two-minute rounds, and then clowned with Sugar Ray Leonard, who was at the ringside.



Barkley (left) and Nunn trade punches. (Reuter wirephoto)

Worcester on brink of victory

LONDON, Aug 15, (Reuters)—Worcestershire pace bowler Steve McEwan took three wickets in four balls to put the championship leaders on the brink of victory over Hampshire in their county match at Bournehead yesterday.

Hampshire, following on 188 in arrears, were a miserable 28 for four in their second innings at the close of the second day's play of the three-day match.

McEwan's devastating burst came in the home team's second innings and overshadowed the efforts of fellow seamer Stuart Lampitt who took five for 38 as Hampshire were dismissed for 137 in their first innings.

Worcestershire, 266 for eight overnight, added a further 59, before they were all out for 325 in their first innings.

However, championship contenders Essex also looked to be well placed to win as John Stephenson and Nasser Hussain both plundered centuries off the Lancashire attack.

They enabled Essex to reach 400 for four before declaring, a first innings lead of 305.

Stephenson stayed over seven hours for a career-best 171, hitting a six and 23 fours, and with Hussain put on 162 for the fourth wicket, half of them coming in one spectacular hour after lunch.

Hussain, who must be close to an England Test place, underlined his potential with a chanceless 105 not out that contained nine boundaries.

Scores

At Cheltenham: Derbyshire 448 for nine declared (T. O'Gorman 124, C. Walsh four for 62). Gloucestershire 111 for three in 44.5 overs when rain stopped play.

At Swansea: Sussex 240 in 75 overs. Glamorgan 262 for six (A. Butcher 67, M. Maynard 65, S. James 40 not out).

At Lytham: Lancashire 95 in 39.5 overs and 91 for one (G. Lloyd 47 not out). Essex 400 for four declared (J. Stephenson 171, N. Hussain 105 not out).

At Lord's: Northamptonshire 363 in 110.5 overs. Middlesex 298 for one in 86 overs (J. Carr 153 not out, D. Haynes 76 not out, M. Ramprakash 49 not out).

At Scarborough: Yorkshire 400 for five declared (P. Robinson 147, Kent 271 for six in 89.3 overs (M. Taylor 111, C. Cowdrey 80).

At Edgbaston: Somerset 316 for eight declared. Warwickshire 224 for seven in 81 overs (J. Ratcliffe 67, D. Reeve 41).

At Bournehead: Worcestershire 325 (R. Illingworth 71). Hampshire 137 in 48.4 overs (S. Lampitt five for 38) and 28 for four.

Lewis to face Christie

Ereng and Kingdom threaten records

ZURICH, Aug 15, (Reuters)—Paul Ereng's attempt to avenge a rare defeat and Roger Kingdom's quest to fulfil a lifetime's ambition will put two of the oldest track world records in athletics under threat at the Zurich Grand Prix tomorrow.

The two Olympic champions may enter Europe's richest and most prestigious meeting with vastly different motives, but they could leave united in triumph after shattering two world marks set within 10 weeks of each other eight years ago.

Ereng's desire to avenge his 800 metres loss to Briton Tom McKean last month — his first defeat since donning the Olympic crown in Seoul — could disguise a furtive assault on Sebastian Coe's mark of one minute 41.73 set in Florence in June 1981.

The Kenyan's raw and exciting two-lap potential has not yet been fully exploited and Zurich's sultry conditions and unique atmosphere will provide the perfect environment for him to join the ranks of the 800 metres greats.

Kingdom, by contrast, has

long had his heart set on relieving fellow-American Renaldo Nehemiah of the 110 metres hurdles mark of 12.93 seconds. And nothing would give him greater pleasure than achieving that feat here, where Nehemiah set the record in August 1981.

Kingdom, whose best this year is 13.10 seconds but who is the only other man ever to break the 13-second barrier for the event, had hoped to mount a serious attack on the mark in the first half of the season.

But conditions were never right and the American, who clocked 12.97 in sestriere, Italy, last year, will know Zurich represents his last realistic chance for another year.

World champion Greg Foster of the United States, Britain's Olympic silver medalist Colin Jackson and Nehemiah all line up in a field fit to grace any major championship final.

Ereng, who turns 22 next week, captured COE's 800 metres indoor world record along with the world indoor crown in March with a breathtaking turn of speed over the last 200 metres reminiscent of the



Paul Ereng

Briton at his best.

Outdoors Ereng has a best of 1:43.22, which is also the fastest in the world this year, but suffered a shock defeat to McKean in an international against Britain in London after carrying much of the pace himself.

McKean struck late to win in a

personal best 1:43.88. But on his day, the elegant Ereng, who began 800 metres running only a few months before winning the Olympic title, looks easily capable of becoming only the sixth man to better 1:43 and only the third to go under 1:42.

Brazilian Jose-Luis Barbosa, American Johnny Gray and Somalia's Abdi Bile could help spur him to it tomorrow.

Olympic champion Carl Lewis faces silver medalist Linford Christie of Britain in what promises to be an enthralling 100 metres showdown while American Butch Reynolds is sure to allow himself a moment's reflection when he returns to the scene of his greatest triumph.

World record holder Said Aouita of Morocco, who clocked the fastest 1,500 metres in the world this year when he ran 3:30.63 in the Netherlands on Sunday, tackles Olympic champion Peter Rono of Kenya while Cuban Javier Sotomayor makes his first major appearance since improving his own high jump world mark to 2.44 metres.



Exhibition game

Miami Dolphins' Jackie Cline (left) brings down Bears' Mark Green during first half action on Sunday in an exhibition game played in Miami. (Reuter wirephoto).

Phillips runs year's 3rd best 400 metres hurdles

LINZ, Austria, Aug 15, (Reuters)—Andre Phillips produced his best performance since winning the Olympic crown in Seoul to romp to a 400 metres hurdles victory at an international athletics meeting yesterday.

The 29-year-old American recorded 48.39 seconds — the third fastest time in the world this year — as he beat Jamaica's Winthrop Graham and compatriot Reggie Davis.

Graham, the quickest man over the distance this year, finished in 48.46 seconds with Davis third in 48.79.

But a delighted Phillips said afterwards: "This has been my best performance this year."

Jamaica's Merlene Ottey easily won a women's 200 metres but she was disappointed with her time of 22.28 seconds.

"I was going for this year's best," said the world indoor champion, whose personal best this year is 22.24 seconds — 0.20 seconds slower than American Dawn Sowell's world best for 1989.

"The field was not fast enough to pull me," she said. World record holder Galina Chistyakova of the Soviet Union suffered a surprise defeat by East German Anke Behmer in the long jump — and then complained that clapping by spectators had put her off.

Behmer won with a personal best 6.85 metres while Chistyakova, the Olympic Bronze medalist, recorded 6.81.

"I wanted to win but the spectators put me off on an artificial track that is the fastest I have ever performed on," Chistyakova said.

Olympic silver medalist Randy Barnes won the men's shot with a fifth-round effort of 22.18 metres — the best in the world this year — while high hurdles world record holder Renaldo Nehemiah showed impressive form of his own.

He won the 110 metres hurdles in 13.32 seconds ahead of compatriot Tomie Campbell, the 1987 world indoor champion, who clocked 13.42. The men's 100 metres in 10.14 seconds, while his compatriot, former world record holder Calvin Smith, finished a disappointing sixth.

Brazil files Cup protest

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Aug 15, (AP)—Brazil filed a formal protest to the Federation of Football Associations in the wake of a national soccer team tied 1-1 in a controversial World Cup qualifying match in Santiago.

Eurico Miranda, head of soccer at the Brazilian Soccer Confederation, said he protested yesterday to the federation, known as FIFA for its French initials, over the game's refereeing and the treatment the team received at Santiago's National Stadium on Sunday.

"I hope FIFA takes measures to prevent games being held in the stadium and has future games held on a neutral field," Miranda was quoted as saying on TV Globo, Brazil's largest television network.

The greatest point of contention came when Colombian referee Jesus Diaz Palacio called a foul against Brazil's goalie Taffarel with Brazil leading 1-0 late in the game.

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Drabek helps Pirates score easy win over Expos

Cardinals sweep double-header against Braves

NEW YORK, Aug 15, (AP)—Doug Drabek pitched a six-hitter and drove in two runs with a single as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat Montreal 6-1 yesterday, sending the Expos to their ninth loss in 11 games.

Drabek, 10-9, has allowed three earned runs or less in 21 of his 25 starts this season. He walked one and struck out five.

Dennis Martinez, 12-3, lost his second straight start after winning 11 consecutive decisions.

With one out in the first, Jay Bell singled and scored on Bobby Bonilla's double. Glenn Wilson then blooped a single into shallow centre field which bounced over the head of Dave Martinez. The centre fielder was charged with an error as Bonilla scored and Wilson ended up on third.

Drabek drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single in the sixth and R.J. Reynolds scored from third on a fielder's choice when Drabek was caught in a rundown.

Cardinals 5, Braves 4

Cardinals 5, Braves 2

The St. Louis Cardinals, who lost four of five games in New York over the weekend, came back last night and swept Atlanta 7-4 and 5-2 in a double-header.

In the first game, Joe Magrane won for the 10th time in 11 starts and added a run-scoring single in

the Cardinals' 7-4 victory. In the nightcap, John Costello, 2-2, picked up fill-in starter Rick Horton with four hitless innings to complete the sweep. Ken Dayley got the last out for his 10th save.

The victories moved the fourth-place Cardinals within 5 1/2 games of the Chicago Cubs in the National League East.

Vince Coleman and Jose Oquendo each singled twice, walked, stole a base and scored twice in the second game for the Cardinals.

Milt Thompson led the Cardinals' attack in the opener with three hits and three RBIs in sending John Smoltz, 11-11, to his fifth straight defeat.

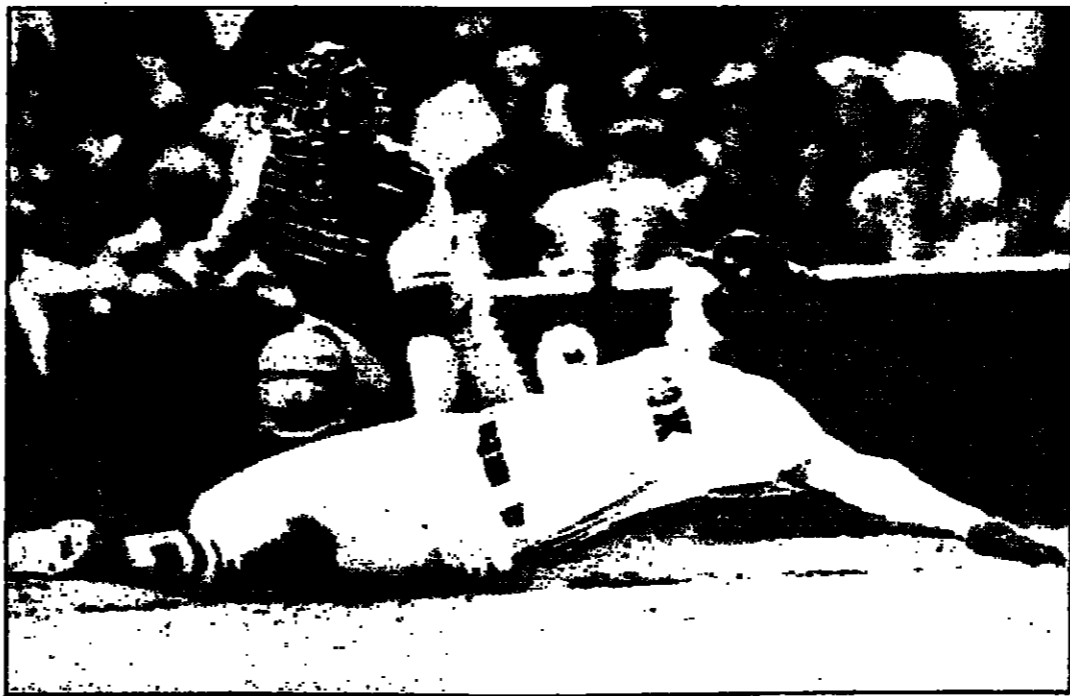
Orioles 4, Tigers 1

Craig Worthington's three-run homer in the 10th inning gave the Baltimore Orioles a 4-1 victory over the Detroit Tigers last night, keeping Jack Morris winless since May 12.

It was the first-place Orioles' eighth victory in 10 extra-inning games this season, including 3-0 on the road. It was the last-place Tigers' 75th loss of the year, one more than all of last season.

Morris, 2-10, allowed five hits in 10 innings, but two were home runs. Morris struck out eight, placing him second on the club's all-time list with 1,776, trailing Mickey Lolich by 903.

The Tiger right-hander was



Red Sox' Nick Esasky is tagged out at home plate by Blue Jays' catcher Ernie Whitt. (left). (Reuter wirephoto).

on the disabled list from May 25 to July 24.

"Morris was just outstanding," Baltimore manager Frank Robinson said. "It makes me especially proud of my pitchers that we stayed in there with him tonight."

Dave Schmidt, 9-12, won his first decision since moving from

the starting rotation to the bullpen on Aug 7.

Blue Jays 4, Red Sox 2

Toronto won its 13th straight game at Fenway park as rookie Mauro Gozzo won his second consecutive Major-League start and Rance Mulliniks hit a two-run homer, leading the Blue Jays over Boston.

The Blue Jays remained 2 and 1-2 games behind first-place Baltimore in the American League East, while the Red Sox dropped 3 and 1-2 out.

Tony Fernandez had three hits while George Bell and Mookie Wilson had two hits as every Toronto batter Ernie Whitt had at least a single.

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Brewers 5, Yankees 4

Gus Polidor, batting .194 singled in B.J. Surhoff with the winning run as Milwaukee rallied for three runs in the ninth inning off reliever Dave Righetti to beat New York, moving the Brewers to .500 for the first time since April 28.

The victory kept the Brewers in a second-place tie with Toronto, 2 and 1-2 games behind first-place Baltimore in the American League East. The sixth-place Yankees fell 6 and 1-2 games behind.

White Sox 4, Royals 3

Dan Pasqua's home run and Lance Johnson's run-scoring single in the sixth inning rallied Chicago past Kansas City.

Pasqua, making his first start as designated hitter since returning from a knee injury, hit his 10th homer to tie the score 3-3 off Luis Aquino, 6-7.

Carlos Martinez then singled, went to second on a sacrifice by Steve Lyons and scored on Johnson's single to left off reliever Steve Crawford.

Results

American League	
Toronto	4
Baltimore	4
Milwaukee	5
Chicago	4
Minnesota	6
Boston	2
Detroit	1
New York	4
Kansas City	3
California	3

National League	
Pittsburgh	6
St. Louis (1st)	7
St. Louis (2nd)	5
Montreal	1
Atlanta	4

GCA and Starlite triumph

GOA Cultural Association (GCA) and Starlite entered the semifinals of the 6th Ida Memorial Football Tournament with victories over Goan Sporting and Santos respectively at the Soor grounds on Friday.

The first match, between GCA and Sporting was a closely fought with both sides enjoying an equal number of opportunities. GCA took the lead in the 14th minute of the first half through Carmo whose header beat the Sporting goalkeeper.

However, GCA's joy was shortlived as Sporting fought back and got the equaliser six minutes later.

After the interval, the game was mostly confined to the midfield with both the teams making some good moves but lacking in penetration. GCA scored the winning goal in the first half of the extra time, played after the normal time failed to produce any result. The goal came off a free-kick taken by Oscar.

Sporting tried to get the equaliser but were thwarted in their efforts by a strong GCA defence.

The second match between Starlite and Santos seemed to be an interesting game at the start but soon turned into a one-sided affair with Starlite winning 4-1.

Albert scored two goals for Starlite while Mauricio and Brian got one each. Inacio scored the only goal for Santos.

On Friday, AJ Othman meet Goa Maroons on Ground A at 6.15am. At the same time, Salcete United take on Goa Cultural Centre on Ground B.

Italian clubs can't pay for top talent

MILAN, Italy, Aug 15, (AP)—Italian Major League soccer clubs this year did not live up to their reputations for paying the millions it takes to secure the talents and the whims of the most celebrated international soccer stars.

Several Italian teams could not afford the high-price contracts because they already are in the red because of rocketing management costs and a drop in fan attendance last season.

Others found spiraling inflation in Latin America and the availability of inexpensive players from the newly opened Eastern European markets helped hold down the bidding.

In years past, Italian clubs paid in excess of \$10 million in transfer fees to hire Argentine forward Diego Armando Maradona and Dutch ace Ruud Gullit, who still top the list of highest paid foreign stars. Maradona gets \$1.5 million a year from Napoli and Gullit \$1.2 million a year from AC Milan.

This year, the most expensive transfer was Brazilian star Geovani, who cost Bologna nearly \$7 million in transfer fees. Geovani will earn \$400,000 a year on his three-year contract.

Most newcomers cost between 1 and 3 million dollars.

"This means that the 'campionissimi', the real stars, eluded the Italian League," wrote Alberto Costa, a soccer writer for Milan's widely circulated daily Corriere Della Sera.

"Fans must be prepared for bitter disappointments as some of the newcomers will turn to be a flop," another Milan soccer expert noted.

In all, there will be 51 foreign players, including 20 newcomers. And for the first time in several years, Argentine players will outnumber Brazilians.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

IAC badminton

IAC is organising a badminton tournament from Sept 7 which is open to all Indians in Kuwait. All those wishing to participate should contact the organising committee for further information & entry forms. I.A.C. office tel. 3904817 (6 pm to 10.30 pm), P.K. Koshy, tel. 3982578 or 3913476. Vijay Samuel, tel. 2401534 or 2644863, Philip Cherian, 4741946 or 4330041.

Govt pressure

SYDNEY, Aug. 15. (Reuters): The Australian Rugby Union (ARU) criticised the government today for attempting to stop six players joining an international tour of South Africa.

Federal forum

CINCINNATI, Aug. 15. (AP): Major League baseball asked a US appeals court yesterday to deny Pete Rose's request to return his case to state court, asserting that a dispute between a local Cincinnati hero and a New York citizen "deserved a federal forum."

Rugby tour

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Six Australian players and a Scot arrived in South Africa today to swell the ranks of the disputed rugby union international XV and their manager confidently forecast the arrival of 20 more.

Chinese star

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Aug. 15. (AP): Chinese table tennis star Teng Yi arrived in Taipei today for the first visit ever by a mainland Chinese athlete to this nationalist Chinese-held island. "This is a very significant day for me," Teng said at a news conference. "I hope this will be a new beginning and that more outstanding (mainland) athletes will visit Taiwan later."

Coe selected

LONDON, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Former Olympic champion Sebastian Coe, who said last year he never expected to run for Britain again, was named by British selectors today to run the 1,500 metres in the World Cup in Barcelona next month.

Doping test

TORONTO, Aug. 15. (Reuters): A Canadian bobsledder managed to beat a doping test despite admitting to a national team coach that he was taking anabolic steroids, a Canadian inquiry into drug use in sport heard yesterday.

Bengoechea wins

SAINT VINCENT, Italy, Aug. 15. (AP): Fourth-seeded Eduardo Bengoechea of Argentina struggled yesterday before overcoming unseeded Alejandro Aramburu of Peru in a first-round match of the Saint Vincent clay-court tennis tournament.

Fuentes triumphs

INGLEWOOD, California, Aug. 15. (AP): Sammy Fuentes of Puerto Rico won a unanimous 12-round decision over Panamanian Rodolfo Aguilar to win the World Boxing Council Continental Americas super lightweight belt last night.

Road race

LEGNANO, Italy, Aug. 15. (AP): Denmark's Rolf Sorensen won the Bernocchi Cup road race, a warmup for the Aug 27 world championships in Chambéry, France, outstripping seven other cyclists at the finish line in this northern city, near Milan, yesterday.

Steroids used

TORONTO, Aug. 15. (AP): A recent high school graduate told the Canadian national inquiry into drugs and amateur sports that steroids gave him strength, athletic prowess and a criminal record. David Bain of Guelph, Ontario, yesterday became one of the first witnesses to tell the inquiry, which was formed after a Ben Johnson scandal at the Seoul Olympics, that steroids are being used by athletes as young as high-school age.

Lightweight bout

NEW YORK, Aug. 15. (AP): For Pernell Whitaker, a World Boxing Council lightweight title fight on Sunday against Jose Luis Ramirez is "like an early Christmas present." In March 1988, Whitaker broke his left hand in the fourth round and eventually lost a controversial split decision to Ramirez for the WBC crown.



Practice session

French soccer team coach Michel Platini (left) conducts training for his squad in preparation for France's match against Sweden in Malmö, Sweden, this evening. Right: Enc Cantona goes through his paces. (Reuters wirephoto)

West Germany blast Malaysia to finish on top

IPOH, Malaysia, Aug. 15. (AP): West Germany cruised to an easy 8-0 victory over Malaysia in the Junior World Cup hockey tournament, ending up as the top team in Group A in the preliminary round today.

The West Germans, who already had clinched a place in the semifinals, led 4-0 halfway through the first half.

Australia and West Germany each have nine points for their five preliminary round games, but the Germans came out ahead on goal difference — 32 for and five against, compared to Australia's 18-6.

Others in Group A are Argentina, the Netherlands and Egypt.

In Group B, Pakistan already had clin-

ched one berth for Thursday's semifinals while South Korea are almost certain of winning the other berth.

Other teams in this group are Spain, the Soviet Union, England and the United States.

Andreas Decker started Germany's scoring in the sixth minute, picking up a

rebound off a Malaysian player on a short corner.

Christian Blunck scored in the 13th minute after a cross from Jan Peters Tewes, captain Frederick Ness made it 3-0 off a short corner in the 27th minute and Wolf Noun netted another short corner in the 32nd minute.

Andre Schiefer scored in the 52nd minute, Decker picked up his second goal in the 64th, Klaus Holzmueller added a goal in the 66th minute and Andre Schiefer made it 8-0 just before the final whistle.

Later, South Korea drew 2-2 with the Soviet Union. Halftime score was 1-1.

And in the last match of the day, Pakistan

scored an easy 7-1 victory over Spain in their last group match after leading 4-0 at half-time.

Tariq Sheikh was the top scorer for Pakistan with five goals. The other two goals were scored by Tahir Zaman and Shahbaz Ahmed. Juan Escare scored the consolation goal for Spain.

Graf sails through

World No. 1 ruins Kessaris' pro debut

MAHWAH, New Jersey, Aug. 15. (AP): Top-seeded Steffi Graf needed only 32 minutes to ruin the pro debut of Kim Kessaris and post a 6-0, 6-0 victory in the opening round of the United Jersey Bank Classic last night.

Kessaris, 16, was not scheduled to play in the tournament at Ramapo College but received a late invitation when Hu Na of San Diego withdrew last afternoon because of an ankle injury.

Graf, the winner of six of the last seven Grand Slam tournaments and ranked No. 1 in the world, showed no mercy in raising her record this year to 58-2. The victory was also the fifth in that Spain in which she has not dropped a game.

The match was played in a light rainfall, which Graf said motivated her all the more.

"I did try to get it over quickly and rushed, but she rushed, too," said the West German. "I played very well and concentrated well. The courts were a little dangerous in the final three games."

Graf, who is seeking her 11th title of the year, dropped only 11 points in the match.

Kessaris of Hendersonville, North Carolina, had played Graf



Graf: showed no mercy to Kessaris

in the second round at Wimbledon this year and lost 6-2, 6-1. "She played a lot better today than at Wimbledon," said Kessaris, who earned \$1,400 for her pro debut. "I didn't know what to do."

Graf drove Kessaris from cor-

ner to corner with swift ground strokes and then either ripped a deep placement or dropshot winner. The West German had five aces and four service winners. She ended the match with a backhand drop.

In the afternoon session, Kathy Rinaldi, who won her first major pro title here four years ago when she beat a young Graf, rallied from a set down to upset third-seeded Jana Novotna 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.

"Wins like this are great and so much sweeter when you are making a comeback," said Rinaldi, who returned to action last year after being sidelined for 11 months with a broken thumb.

"In the first set, I was nervous," she added. "I got into the match in the second set and hung in there during the third."

Rinaldi trailed 2-4 in the final set before winning the final four games.

Novotna, who said heat and high humidity led to her collapse, was broken in the eighth game at love on successive double faults. She dropped the match in the 10th game when she floated a backhand wide on Rinaldi's second match point.

World 100m breaststroke mark falls

Moorhouse sets record

BONN, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Britain's Adrian Moorhouse broke the five-year-old 100 metres breaststroke world record in an explosive opening to the defence of his title at the European Swimming Championships today.

Olympic champion Moorhouse clocked one minute 1.49 seconds in the heats to beat the 1:01.65 mark set by American Steve Lundquist at the Los Angeles Olympics on July 29, 1984.

"My time was not a surprise. I wanted to break the world record in the heats and I want to go quicker in the final tonight," Moorhouse said after his performance in the Roemerbad as the first day of the swimming programme unfolded in hot sunshine.

Moorhouse, competing in the third of four heats, led at the turn in 29.01 seconds, outside Lundquist's record split of 28.88 and just 0.02 of a second up on perennial Soviet rival Dimitri Volkov in the adjacent lane.

The powerful Briton in lane three surged away down the second length to surpass the world record and his own European mark of 1:01.78 set in Orlando, Florida, in March 1988.

Volkov, bronze medalist behind Moorhouse in last year's Seoul Olympics, took second place in 1:01.86, with Britain's Nick Gillingham, Olympic 200 breaststroke silver medalist, third in 1:02.79.

The only current men's world



Moorhouse raises his arm in victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

record set before Lundquist's 1984 time is the 1,500 metres freestyle mark of Vladimir Salnikov of the Soviet Union, dating back to February 22, 1983.

Moorhouse was sidelined for several months when he broke a bone in his left hand in a sports car crash at Brands Hatch, England, last October.

Hungary's Karolyi Guttler, beaten by Moorhouse for the Olympic title by just 0.01 of a second, failed to qualify for the final.

Guttler clocked 1:03.75, finishing second behind Dutchman

Ron Dekker (1:02.75), and was joint 10th overall — too slow for the eight-strong final.

Moorhouse, who for the first time is not competing over the 200 distance here, has compiled an impressive collection of European and Commonwealth titles but missed a world crown under controversial circumstances in Madrid three years ago.

Sweden's Anders Holmertz made a confident start to his 200 metres freestyle title defence, returning the fastest heat time of 1:48.63.

The Olympic silver medalist led final qualifiers ahead of East German Steffen Zesner (1:49.00) and 1987 runner-up Giorgio Lamberti of Italy (1:49.34).

Marianne Muis of the Netherlands upstaged the East Germans in the women's 100 metres freestyle heats, clocking the fastest qualifying time of 55.72 seconds.

The East Germans, who have won the 100 title nine times in a row from 1962, had to settle for second and fourth through Katrin Meissner (56.34) and Manuela Stellmach (56.50), split by Catherine Plewinski of France (56.38).

Italian Giorgio Lamberti set a world record one minute 46.69 seconds today in the men's 200 metres freestyle, the second world mark of the swimming championships.

Lamberti's time bettered the previous record of 1:47.25, set by Australian Duncan Armstrong on Aug 18 1989, at the Seoul Olympic Games.

Fred Stolle's son loses in GP debut

MONTREAL, Canada, Aug. 15. (Reuters): There was a Stolle on court at the \$742,500 Canadian Open tennis championships yesterday, but it was not Australian legend Fred.

Sandon Stolle, Fred's 19-year-old son, made his Grand Prix debut, losing a 6-7 (5-7) 7-6 (7-3) 7-6 (7-4) first round heartbreaker to the more experienced American Kelly Jones.

"That's probably one of the most frustrating matches I've ever played in my life," said Sandon Stolle, who has been playing satellite events this summer. "It will take me a couple of days to get over it."

But the elder Stolle, the former Australian Davis Cup star of the mid-1960s, could not have been happier that his son qualified for a Grand Prix tournament in only his second attempt.

"I'm just so proud of him, that he's worked so hard," said the elder Stolle, champion of France in 1965 and the United States in 1966.

Stolle lost his Grand Prix opener in dramatic fashion as Jones was able to fight off 11 match points.

Stolle held two match points on Jones' serve in the 10th game of the second set and was unable to convert nine match points against the American's serve in the 36-point ninth game of the final set.

In other first round matches

ninth-seeded Argentine Guillermo Perez-Roldan and Americans Richey Reneberg, seeded 15th, and Jimmy Arias, the 16th seed, advanced, while 10th-seeded Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic fell to American Jonathan Canter 6-3 6-4.

Chang makes strong start

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug. 15. (Reuters): Fourth seed Michael Chang got off to a strong start with an easy straight-set victory over South African Neil Broad in the first round of the \$602,500 ATP Championships yesterday.

The 17-year-old French Open champion who has been topped by a pair of much lower-ranked players in recent weeks — American Jim Grabb at Stratton Mountain and Australian Jason Stoltenberg last week in Livingston — shrugged off his rustiness here.

The American, ranked sixth in the world, needed just 59 minutes to dismiss the 173-ranked Broad 6-1 6-1.

Five other seeded players were not so fortunate. The most dramatic upset was the dismissal of ninth-seeded Swede Anders Jarryd by American Marty Davis 6-3 4-6 6-3.

Davis said a doubles loss to Jarryd at Wimbledon sparked his determination for revenge on the singles court.



Amir receives victorious squads

HH the Amir yesterday received Kuwait's national basketball team which won first place in the Saddam International Championship, held recently in Baghdad.

The victorious squad was accompanied by board chairman and members of Kuwaiti Basketball Federation. Present at the audience was the President of Kuwaiti Olympic Committee and honorary chairman of the federation Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed Al-Jaber.

The Amir also received the Kuwait shooting team which clinched first place in the Damascus International Championship, held there recently.

The team was accompanied by the board chairman and members of the Kuwaiti shooting committee. Sheikh Fahd was also present at the audience. Above: HH the Amir with the basketball team and below with the shooting team.



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